TOKYOPOP
Jim Henson's
RETURN TO
LABYRINTH
STORY BY: JAKE T. FORBES • ART BY: CHRIS LIE
COVER ART BY: KOUYU SHUREI
2

Manga
Fantasy
US $9.99
CAN $12.50
UK £6.99

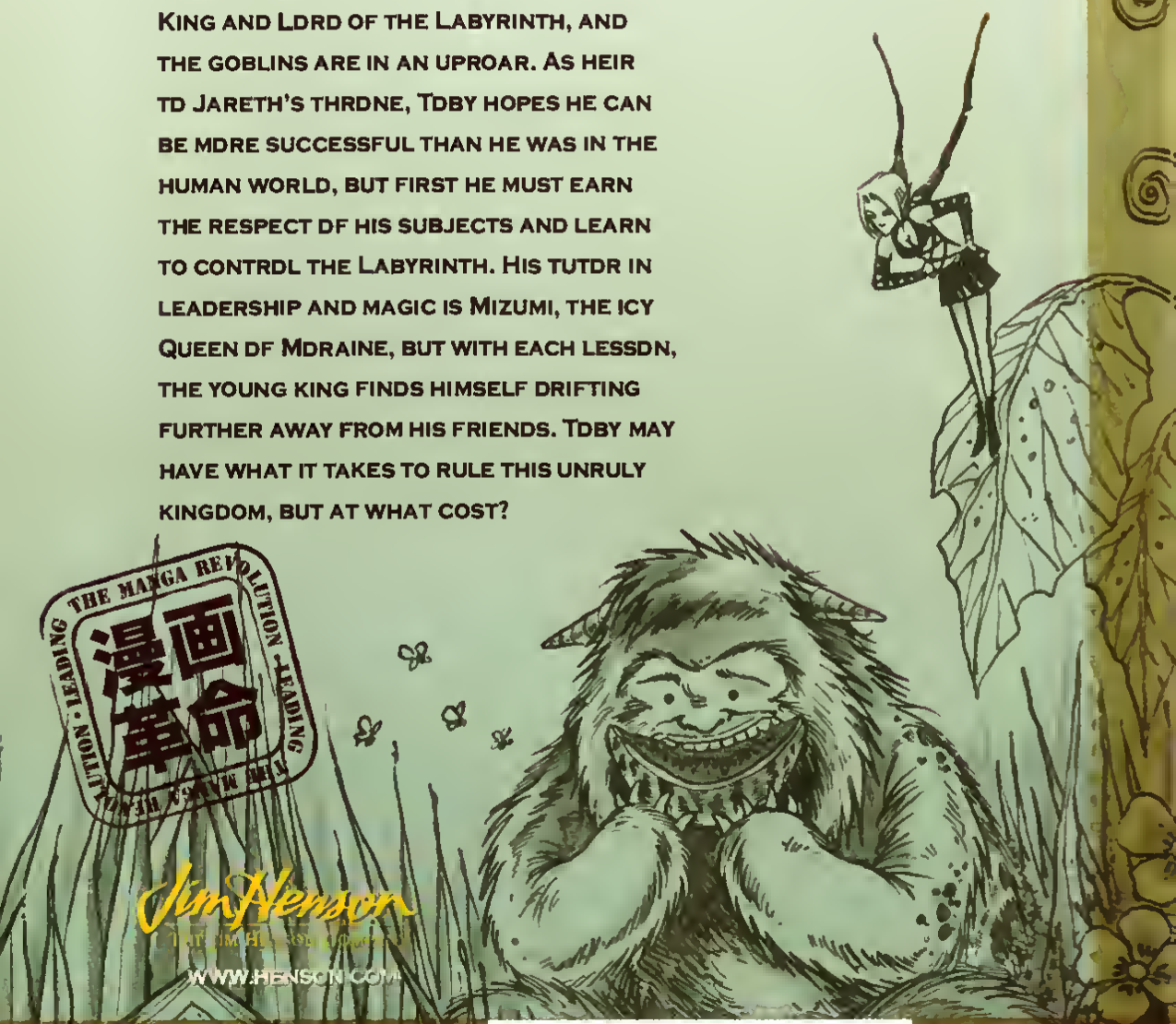
BASED ON THE CLASSIC HIT FILM!

Jim Henson's RETURN TO LABYRINTH™

"A GREAT BOOK THAT FANS OF THE ORIGINAL ARE SURE TO LOVE."
–A.E. SPARROWHAWK

SECRETS ARE REVEALED AS THE REIGN OF POWER PASSES FROM ONE HEIR TO ANOTHER...

TOBY HAS BEEN NAMED THE NEXT GOBLIN KING AND LORD OF THE LABYRINTH, AND THE GOBLINS ARE IN AN UPROAR. AS HEIR TO JARETH'S THRONE, TOBY HOPES HE CAN BE MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN HE WAS IN THE HUMAN WORLD, BUT FIRST HE MUST EARN THE RESPECT OF HIS SUBJECTS AND LEARN TO CONTROL THE LABYRINTH. HIS TUTOR IN LEADERSHIP AND MAGIC IS MIZUMI, THE ICY QUEEN OF MORAINE, BUT WITH EACH LESSON, THE YOUNG KING FINDS HIMSELF DRIFTING FURTHER AWAY FROM HIS FRIENDS. TOBY MAY HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO RULE THIS UNRULY KINGDOM, BUT AT WHAT COST?



Jim Henson
WWW.HENSON.COM

FANTASY

T
TEEN
AGE 13+

ISBN 978-1-59816-726-9
50999
9 781598 167269
www.TOKYOPOP.com

TOKYOPOP

Volume 2

Written by Jake T. Forbes
Illustrated by Chris Lie
Cover Art by Kouyu Shurei

Based on the feature film "Labyrinth"
Directed by Jim Henson
Story by Dennis Lee and Jim Henson
Screenplay by Terry Jones

Original designs by Brian Froud

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

Jim Henson's Return to Labyrinth Vol. 2
Written by Jake T. Forbes
Illustrated by Chris Lie

Inkers - Dyotami Febriani and Rhoald Marcellius of Imaginary Friends Studios
Tones - Infinity Studio
Lettering - Lucas Rivera
Cover Design - Anne Marie Horne & Kouyu Shurei

Consulting Editor - Michael Polis
Assistant Editor - Sarah Tangney

Editor - Tim Beedle
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Pre-Production Supervisor - Erika Terriquez
Managing Editor - Elisabeth Brizzi
Creative Director - Anne Marie Horne
Editor-in-Chief - Rob Tokar
Publisher - Mike Kiley
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
C.E.O. and Chief Creative Officer - Stuart Levy

A TOKYOPOP® Manga

TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

© 1986, 2007 The Jim Henson Company. LABYRINTH is a trademark of The Jim Henson Company. Labyrinth characters © 1986 Labyrinth Enterprises. All Rights Reserved. All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders. This manga is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual events or locales or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

ISBN: 978-1-59816-726-9

First TOKYOPOP printing: October 2007
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Printed in the USA

Contents

Chapter 1.....6
Chapter 2.....26
Chapter 3.....70
Chapter 4.....119
Guest Art Gallery.....171

Previously...

Toby Williams was just an ordinary boy with ordinary problems: homework, girls and parents.

Or so he thought.

A visit from his mysterious new guidance counselor caps a series of increasingly bizarre encounters and occurrences. First, there was his ruined school play. Then he was mistakenly accused of cheating on his calculus test. Finally, after catching something making off with his history paper, he follows the small creature through a hidden passage in his closet and out into a remarkable new world.

Determined to find the thief, he continues his pursuit, only to be accosted by Hana, a faerie who has lost her wings, and her furry companion, Stank. Upon discovering that they could both work together to achieve their individual goals, Hana decides to team up with Toby. They catch up to the thief, a small goblin named Skub, only to find that he no longer has the history paper and that Toby's homework is, in fact, at the castle that rests at the center of the huge Labyrinth that dominates the kingdom. Promising to help Toby and his friends make their way through the maze, Skub joins their party. Unfortunately, some problems in the Labyrinth land Toby in jail, where he meets Moppet, a girl disguised as a goblin, and Spittledrum, the goblin mayor who orders Toby to be put to death.

However, his execution is unexpectedly halted by someone Toby instantly recognizes: his new guidance counselor. He reveals himself to be Jareth, the Goblin King (who seems to share some sort of history with Toby's sister) and promises to return Toby to his world if Toby agrees to attend Jareth's ball that evening. He does, and Toby finds himself drinking and dining among such individuals as Hoggle, the Prince of the Land of Stench, Sir Didymous, a very chivalrous fox, and Queen Mizumi of the Moraine Kingdom, a coldly beautiful woman who seems to put people on edge.

It's a breathtaking evening and a ball unlike any other, but Toby can't help feeling out of place. Therefore, he certainly wasn't prepared for the evening's big announcement. Jareth has decided to retire and has chosen none other than Toby as the next Goblin King and Lord of the Labyrinth.

Chapter 1
MIZUMI'S PROPOSITION

THROUGH DANGERS UNTOLD AND HARDSHIPS UNNUMBERED...
...I HAVE FOUGHT MY WAY HERE TO THE CASTLE BEYOND THE GOBLIN CITY...
...TO TAKE BACK THE CHILD THAT YOU HAVE STOLEN.

FOR MY WILL IS AS STRONG AS YOURS...
...AND MY KINGDOM AS GREAT.
YOU HAVE NO POWER OVER ME!

AAAAAH!!
13 years ago...
YOUR HIGHNESS?

POWER? WHAT DOES THAT GIRL KNOW ABOUT POWER?
AND "HARDSHIPS UNNUMBERED"? THERE WERE 12, AT BEST!

KLATTA KLATTA

IF HOGSWORTH HADN'T HELPED HER, SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN TRAPPED UNTIL HER SPIRIT WAS BROKEN! LYING, CHEATING, SCHEMING GIRL... SHE'S WORSE THAN ME!
SARAH...
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME...?

THE GOBLINS ARE REVOLTING!
REALLY, SPITTLEDRUM, MUST YOU ALWAYS DWELL ON THE OBVIOUS? THEY ARE POSITIVELY VILE.

THIS IS MOST SERIOUS, YOUR MAJESTY! THE PATHMAKER MOVES THE LABYRINTH WALLS WITHOUT RHYME OR REASON! THE BOG OF ETERNAL STENCH IS BUBBLING OVER! EVEN YOUR ENEMIES HAVE GROWN BOLD, AMASSING THEIR ARMIES IN THE FIELDS OF GNOR!
SOME GOBLINS ARE SAYING...
...THAT YOU'VE LOST CONTROL OVER THE LABYRINTH.
THEY ARE, ARE THEY? Oh, my!
Y-YES, YOUR MAJESTY. THEY SAY THAT EVER SINCE SHE LEPT, YOU'VE BECOME ALL BUT POWERLESS.
THIS IS SERIOUS, ISN'T IT? I SUPPOSE I SHOULD TENDER MY RESIGNATION AT ONCE. STEP DOWN. LET SOME FRESH BLOOD TAKE OVER THE THRONE. BUT WHEREVER WOULD I FIND SOMEONE READY TO TAKE ON SUCH RESPONSIBILITY?
WELL, YOUR MAJESTY, IF I MIGHT BE SO BOLD, I WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE ON THE BURDEN MYSELF. FOR THE GOOD OF THE KINGDOM, OF COURSE.
I ASSURE YOU, YOUR MAJESTY, I WOULD SEE THAT YOU ARE WELL TAKEN CARE OF. YOU COULD HAVE ANY POSITION YOU WANTED IN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.
A figurehead position, of course...

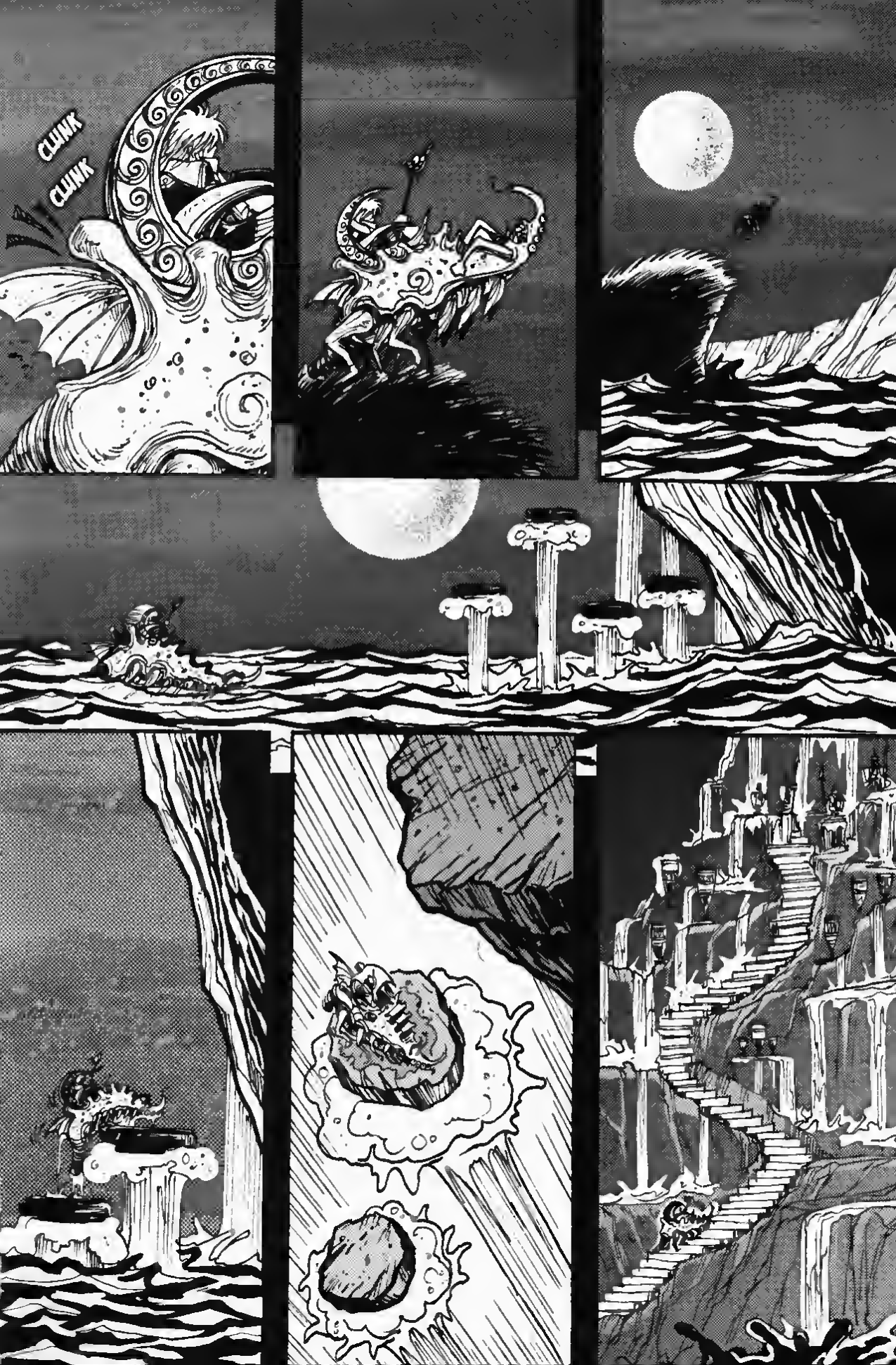
YOU ARE TOO KIND.
PREPARE MY PALANQUIN.
EXILE, YOUR MAJESTY? REALLY, I DON'T THINK YOU NEED TO GO SO FAR AS--
I'M NOT GOING INTO EXILE, YOU SIMPLE-MINDED SOT!
I'M MAKING A SOCIAL CALL.
Not that it is any of your business.
YES, YOUR MAJESTY! I'LL BRING IT OUT AT ONCE!

WHEN I RETURN, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU WHAT YOU WANT.
Y-YOU ARE?
I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU MAYOR.

EVERY LEAF, EVERY STONE, EVERY LIFE WITHIN THESE WALLS BELONGS TO ME...
...BUT I WOULD DESTROY THEM ALL AND BUILD THEM ALL OVER AGAIN...

...IF IT WOULD BRING HER BACK.
FOR WHAT USE IS A KINGDOM TO A KING IF HE HAS NO QUEEN TO SHARE IT WITH?

drip
SHUNK


CLUNK
CLUNK

DAY BY DAY, THE GOBLIN KING DOES FEEL HIS POWERS SHRINK.
MANY CUPS OUR MOTHER HAS, BUT WHAT WILL JARETH DRINK?
MOULIN, DRUMLIN-- THAT'S ENOUGH.

OUR GUEST HAS COME A LONG WAY TO SEE MUMMY.
JARETH, YOU POOR DEAR, YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED. CAN I OFFER YOU SOME REFRESHMENT?
WHILE THEY SAY THE NATIVES OF MORAINE ARE MOST ALLURING, THE GUIDES ADVISE AGAINST DRINKING THE WATER.
HMPH!

THEN PERHAPS THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE I COULD OFFER YOU.
SOMETHING YOU PROVED INCAPABLE OF GETTING ON YOUR OWN.
TAKE ME, JARETH. RULE ME.
...
I DON'T NEED ANYONE BUT YOU.

AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D OFFER MYSELF TO YOU?
YOU ARE BROKEN, GOBLIN KING. A FALLEN GOD. AN EXTINGUISHED STAR. I COULD CONSUME YOUR VERY ESSENCE, BUT THERE IS NOTHING LEFT WORTH CONSUMING. YOU ARE TOTALLY AND UTTERLY POWERLESS. STATE YOUR PURPOSE FOR COMING HERE.
I WANT YOU TO MAKE SOMETHING FOR ME...
TO THINK THAT THE GREAT GOBLIN KING LOST HIS HEART AND POWER TO *THAT* WHEN HE COULD HAVE HAD ME.
AND NOW, HERE YOU ARE, CRAWLING BACK TO ME LIKE A RODENT ON HIS LAST LEGS. WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'LL TAKE YOU NOW?

AN ABLATION.
A WAGER.
IF I SUCCEED, THE ABLATION IS MINE TO KEEP.
AND WHAT WILL YOU OFFER IN EXCHANGE, GOBLIN KING?
IF I FAIL, THE LABYRINTH, THE GOBLIN KINGDOM AND ITS KING ARE YOURS TO DO WITH AS YOU PLEASE.
VERY WELL. I ACCEPT YOUR WAGER.
13 YEARS...
YOU HAVE 13 YEARS, GOBLIN KING, BEFORE YOU AND YOUR KINGDOM BECOME MINE... FOREVER.

Chapter 2
KING TOBY

...THAT BOY, OUR NEW KING? IT'S AN OUTRAGE...
DON'T YOU KNOW IT!
THE WHELP LOOKED FRESHLY BATHED! WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?
THE BOY IS A WRETCH. I DON'T SEE WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS.
POINK
POINK

C'MON, STANK. LET'S GET OUT OF THESE SUITS AND FIND TOBY.
NOT SO FAST, VERMIN.
YOU TWO AREN'T OFF THE HOOK YET. GET SCRUBBING.
IT'S OKAY. THEY'RE WITH ME.

BUT SOMEONE HAS TO CLEAN UP THIS MESS.
WAIT... YOU'RE A GOBLIN.
YOU GUYS HATE CLEAN.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT...
ALLOW ME, YOUR HIGHNESS.
YEAH. FRIENDS OF THE KING.
HANDS OFF.
MOULIN. DRUMLIN.

WHISH!

AROOO?!
SPLISH!

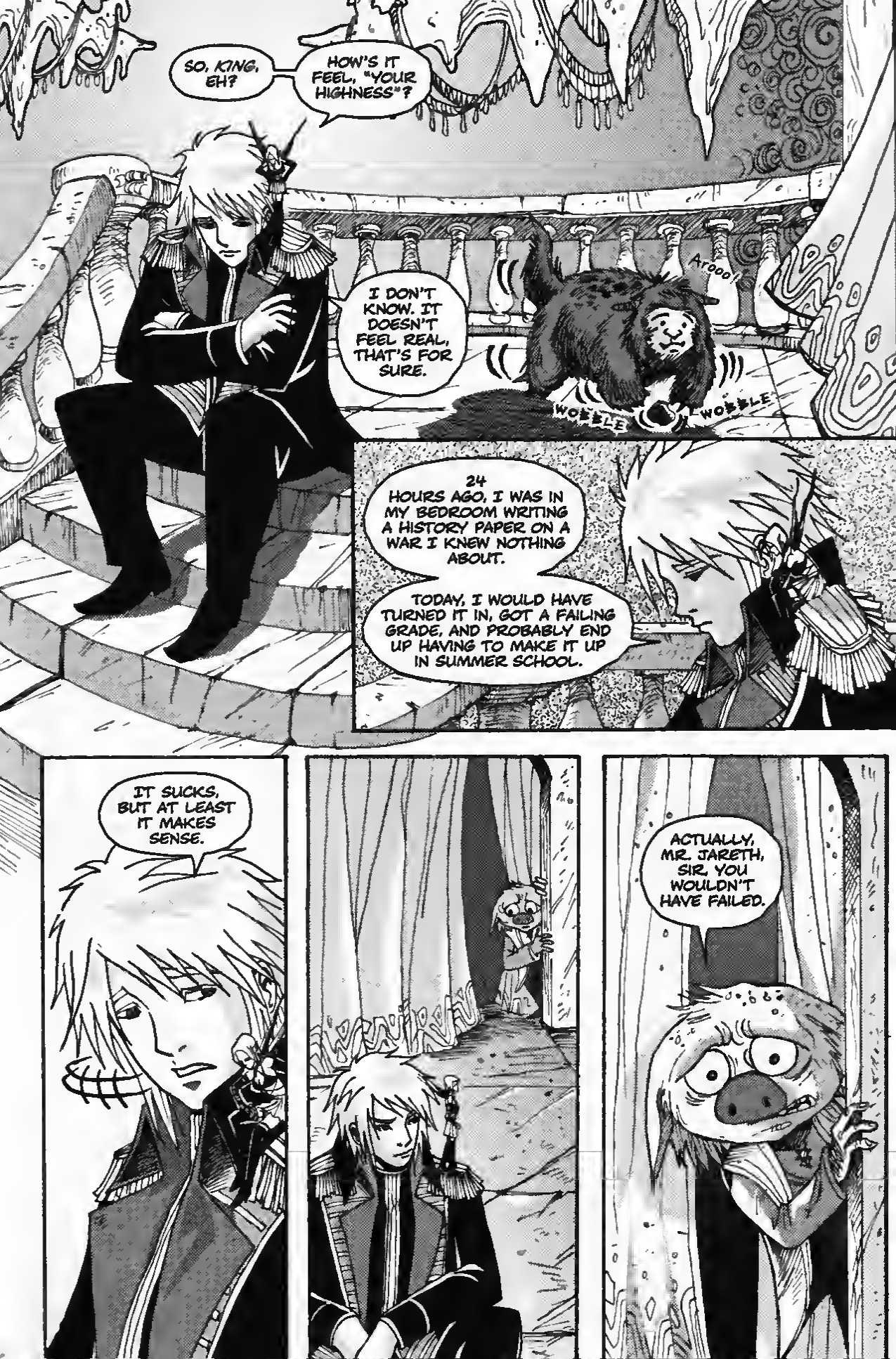
HMM...
WHUSH!

SKREE
GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!
BURP!

UM... THANKS.
OF COURSE, YOUR HIGHNESS. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING YOU NEED IN THIS TRANSITION PERIOD.
SPITTLEDRUM, SET OUR GUESTS UP.
AGGH!
WHY ARE WE PUTTING THEM UP?!
But he said my name right!

SPLISH
ESKER, FETCH OUR BAGS. IT APPEARS WE'LL HAVE TO BIDE OUR TIME UNTIL THE APPOINTED HOUR.
YES, MILADY.
COME ALONG, MY DEARS.

I-I JUST DON'T BELIEVE IT.
AFTER ALL I'VE DONE FOR JARETH... FOR THE KINGDOM. HOW COULD HE PICK THAT HUMAN CHILD OVER ME?
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THE BRAT, SIR. SOMETHING TELLS ME THE BOY WILL HAVE A VERY SHORT REIGN.
AT LAST, I'LL HAVE SOME RESPECT!
KICK ME!!
EXACTLY. NO LONG LEASHES THIS TIME.
AS MAYOR, I'LL LAY DOWN THE LAW FOR THAT IMPERTINENT HEIR. THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT AROUND HERE, I TELL YOU.


SO, KING, EH?
HOW'S IT FEEL, "YOUR HIGHNESS"?
I DON'T KNOW. IT DOESN'T FEEL REAL, THAT'S FOR SURE.
Arooo!
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
24 HOURS AGO, I WAS IN MY BEDROOM WRITING A HISTORY PAPER ON A WAR I KNEW NOTHING ABOUT.
TODAY, I WOULD HAVE TURNED IT IN, GOT A FAILING GRADE, AND PROBABLY END UP HAVING TO MAKE IT UP IN SUMMER SCHOOL.
IT SUCKS, BUT AT LEAST IT MAKES SENSE.
ACTUALLY, MR. JARETH, SIR, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE FAILED.

OLD JARETH MADE US TAKE SKEEVY PICTURES OF YOUR TEACHER AND SEND A NOTE SAYING WE'D GIVE THEM TO THE PRINCIPAL IF TOBY DIDN'T GET AN "A."
SEE!
YOU BLACKMAILED MR. GUNTHER?
And don't call me "Jareth!"
BLACKMAIL, SPYING, KIDNAPPING... YOU GOBLINS ARE SICK!
OH YES! WE BLACKMAILED ALL OF TOBY'S TEACHERS!
AND HIS COACH AND THE LUNCH LADY AND HIS FRIENDS AND HIS CAT...
WILL YOU SPY ON PEOPLE FOR ME?
OF COURSE!!

GREAT! WHEN I GET BACK, I'LL TOTALLY HAVE THOSE JERKS AT SCHOOL IN THE PALM OF MY HAND.
BACK? WHERE IS BACK? TOBY IS THE GOBLIN KING. THE GOBLIN KING BELONGS HERE.
LOOK, SKUB, I KNOW YOU GUYS NEED A KING AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BE HIM, BUT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT I NEED TO GO HOME EVENTUALLY.
BUT WHAT ABOUT JARETH? HE CAME TO MY SCHOOL.
DID TOBY NOT WISH FOR THAT?
DID TOBY NOT WISH TIME AND AGAIN FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE HIM TO A BETTER PLACE?
Better? That's debatable...
NO... NO, THIS ISN'T COOL. I'VE GOT TO... I'VE GOT TO GET SOME FRESH AIR AND THINK.
NO, IT IS TOBY WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND.
THE GOBLIN KING CAN NEVER EVER LEAVE THE LABYRINTH. NOT UNLESS HE IS SUMMONED.

YOU CAN'T LEAVE NOW!
YOU SAID YOU'D HELP ME FIND MY WINGS!
OH YEAH...
...I'M SORRY, HANA.
Hmph!
I PROMISE I'LL HELP YOU LOOK AS SOON AS I GET BACK.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S JUST YOU AND ME AGAIN, STANK.
BUUURP!!

Meanwhile...
I EXPRESSLY ORDERED YOU TO STAY HERE!

AFTER ALL THAT I'VE DONE FOR YOU.
PULLING YOU OUT OF THE RUBBISH HEAPS, GIVING YOU A HOME, A JOB, AN ODOR...
AND I TOLD YOU A HUNDRED TIMES, JARETH SAID HE DIDN'T WANT YOU HANGING AROUND THE PALACE!
YOU'RE JUST LUCKY HE HAD OTHER THINGS ON HIS MIND!
SPITTLE
DRUM
YOU BELONG HERE.
I KNOW...

THIEF!
YOU'RE A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LATE IF YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD STEAL FROM MAGWITCH, YES!
PLEASE... FOOD...
SLAP

SCRAWNY.
GRAB
RUNT.
NOT WORTH EATING, NOT WORTH SALVAGING.
BUT I CAN'T LET YOU GO. MM-MM. YOU'LL JUST STEAL FROM OL' MAGWITCH AGAIN.
KEEP YOU CLOSE, I WILL. VERY CLOSE.
PUT THIS ON BEFORE YOU GIVE EVERYONE A FRIGHT.

TAXMAN! RUN!
HE'S COMING!
IT'S THE TAXMAN!
RUN, YOU FOOL OF A GIRL!
HALT RIGHT THERE!
HRM... NEXT!

LOOK! IT'S THE NEW MAYOR.
DON'T TOUCH MY TREASURE!
I'M AFRAID THIS WOMAN WON'T PAY HER TAXES.
WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE TROUBLE?
I AIN'T PAYIN' YOU CITY GOBLINS ONE TRINKET!
MY DEAR, EVERYONE HAS TO PAY THEIR TAXES.
IF YOU GOOD FOLK DON'T PAY YOUR TAXES, HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FUND THE WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM?
WE ARE THE WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM!
EXACTLY.

NOW, YOU HAVE TO GIVE US SOMETHING.
HOW ABOUT HER?
REALLY? THAT OLD THING? YOU'D BE DOING ME A FAVOR! TAKE IT! GOOD RIDDANCE!
I'M SORRY I DISOBEYED YOU, MASTER.
I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU.
I PROMISE.

I DON'T GET IT, MUM.
IF YOU WANT THE LABYRINTH, WHY NOT JUST TAKE IT? THE NEW KID COULDN'T STOP A LEAKY FAUCET, LET ALONE THE FOUR OF US.
PATIENCE, DEAR. THERE ARE RULES ABOUT THESE THINGS.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS TO CLAIM CONTROL OF A KINGDOM.
THE FIRST WAY IS TO DEFEAT THE KINGDOM IN BATTLE. AS INCOMPETENT AS THE GOBLINS ARE, THEY ARE TENACIOUS TO A FAULT AND FAR OUTNUMBER OUR FORCES.
THE OTHER WAY IS FOR THE RULER TO OFFER THE KINGDOM IN A TRADE.
THAT'S ALL? TOBY WOULD TRADE HIS KINGDOM FOR A PONY.
Not an ounce of horse sense
AH, BUT YOU SEE, I'VE ALREADY MADE AN AGREEMENT.
WITH JARETH.
IF I FAIL, THE LABYRINTH, THE GOBLIN KINGDOM AND ITS KING ARE YOURS TO DO WITH AS YOU PLEASE.
VERY CLEVER... I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT YOU WOULDN'T SURRENDER YOURSELF TO ME SO EASILY, JARETH.
STILL, A DEAL'S A DEAL. THE KING MIGHT HAVE CHANGED, BUT IN ONE WEEK'S TIME, THE KINGDOM IS MINE.

THE KING...
NOBODY EVER DREAMS OF BEING A KING. PRINCES AND PRINCESSES, YEAH, BUT NOT KINGS.
KINGS ARE ALWAYS FOOLS OR TRAGIC FIGURES. THEY'RE NEVER THE HERO.
Bring me my fiddles!
AAAGH, my eyes!
?
WHAT DO I DO...?
GIVE ME A SIGN!!
HUH?!

MUSEUM OF TOBY
HEY! YOU CAN'T JUST WALK IN THERE!

THIS PLACE ISN'T FREE, YOU KNOW!
I'LL CALL THE GUARDS!
LANCELOT...?
LANCELOT! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN YEARS!
EXCUSE ME! EXCUSE ME! YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE THAT!

12ft
10ft
8ft
6ft
4ft
HEY! WHO DREW THOSE?!
1yrs
1.5yrs
3
14yrs
20yrs
48yrs
AHEM.

PROFESSOR MAELGROT, AT YOUR SERVICE. WELCOME TO MY MUSEUM.
NOW, UNLESS YOU WOULD LIKE ME TO ALERT THE AUTHORITIES OF YOUR TRESPASSING, YOU WILL KINDLY PAY THE ENTRANCE FEE. IT'S NOT OFTEN WE GET VISITORS, YOU SEE.
WAIT A MOMENT... SOMETHING ABOUT YOU LOOKS ODDLY FAMILIAR.
YOU REMIND ME OF THE BABE.
WHAT BABE?
THAT BABE YOU IDIOT!
1 yrs

YOU WOULDN'T PERHAPS BE...THE TOBY WILLIAMS?
YES, YES. OF COURSE YOU ARE.
QUICK! GET MY SUPPLIES!
SO MANY TREASURES, SO MANY MEMORIES!
NOW, IF YOU'LL COME THIS WAY, I'LL SHOW YOU THE PRIZE OF MY COLLECTION.

IT'S HIDEOUS!

HIDEOUS? WHY, IT'S MADE FROM PIECES OF YOU, TOBY.
THE SKIN IS MADE FROM FLAKES OF YOUR OWN SKIN. THE HAIR IS YOUR HAIR. EVEN THE TOENAILS HAVE BEEN FASHIONED FROM ACTUAL CLIPPINGS FROM YOUR FEET.
THAT'S REVOLTING!
MY DEAR BOY, THIS IS REVOLTING.
BUT YOU'VE HAD A TRYING TWO DAYS, AND I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D BE CONFUSED.
NO, I BELIEVE THE WORD YOU INTENDED WAS "MAGNIFICENT."
IT WASN'T EASY, YOU KNOW. YOU HUMANS SHED VERY TINY PIECES. SOMETIMES I WISH YOU WERE A REPTILE. MUCH EASIER TO REPRODUCE.
AH, THANK YOU.
OF COURSE. IF WE HAD FRESHER MATERIALS TO WORK WITH, THE LIKENESS WOULD BE MUCH MORE ACCURATE.

NOW, JUST HOLD STILL WHILE I--
THWACK!

TH-THANKS.
DON'T THANK ME JUST YET. I'M HERE TO TELL YOU TO LEAVE. YOU DON'T BELONG HERE.
SO YOU SAID BEFORE.
I'M SERIOUS. THIS PLACE IS DANGEROUS.
IF YOU DON'T GET OUT OF HERE SOON, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO LEAVE.
IS THAT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
...
I DON'T KNOW.
YEAH. THERE'S A LOT ABOUT MY PAST THAT I DON'T KNOW, TOO.

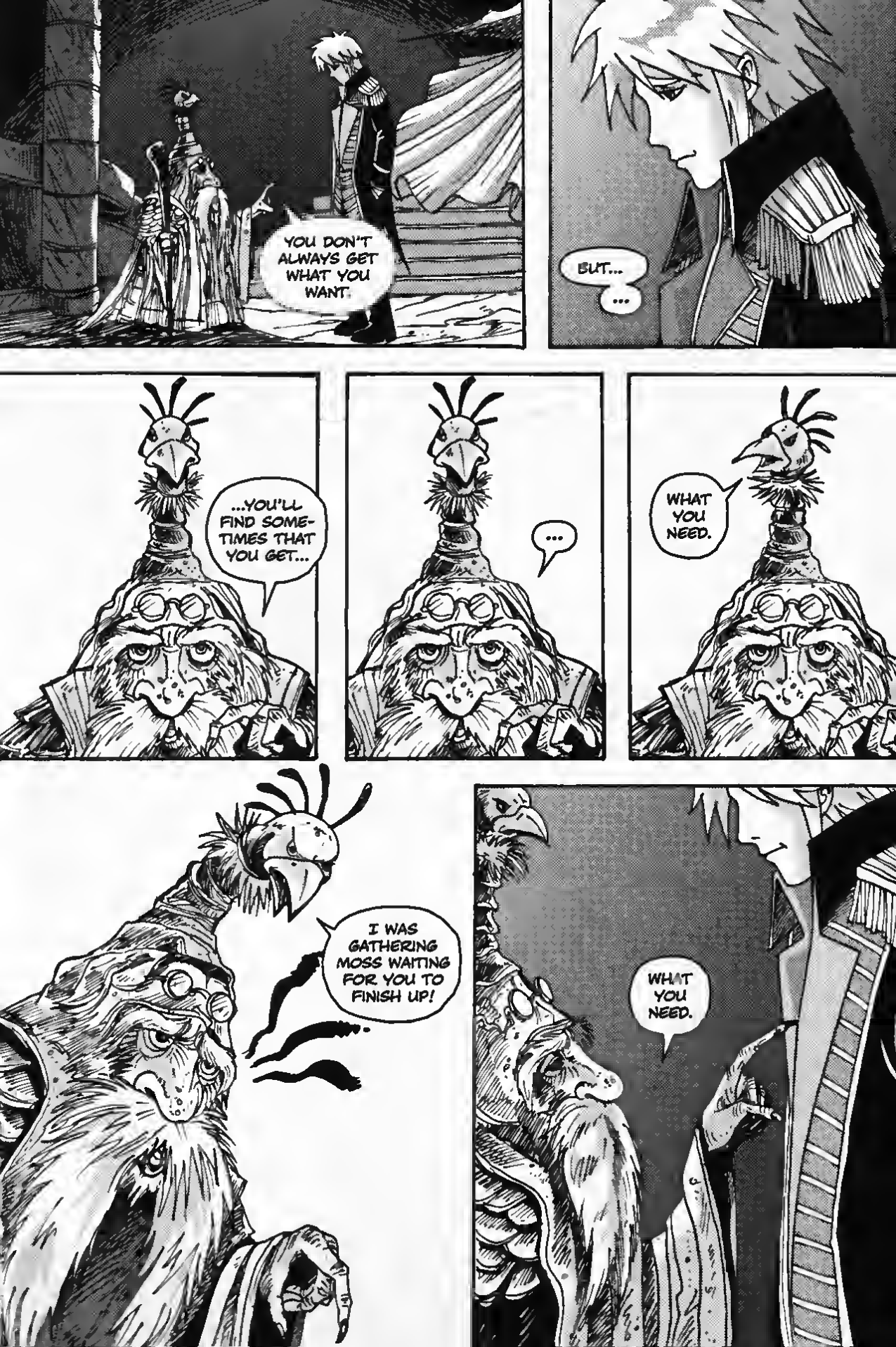
WHEN I WAS A KID, I USED TO LOVE READING THESE BOOKS WHERE YOU CHOSE YOUR OWN WAY THROUGH THE STORY.
WHEN YOU'D GET TO THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE, YOU'D GET A CHOICE. DO YOU GO LEFT OR RIGHT? DO YOU GO INTO THE CAVE, OR GO BACK FOR HELP? DO YOU TRUST THE GIRL OR THE MONSTER? THAT KIND OF STUFF.
MY SISTER HAD, LIKE, A HUNDRED OF THEM. I INHERITED THEM WHEN SHE MOVED OFF TO COLLEGE, AND I USED TO READ THEM OVER AND OVER AGAIN UNTIL I MEMORIZED ALL THE POSSIBILITIES.
NOT HARDLY! BUT I DO KNOW WHO KILLED HARLOWE THROMBEY.
YOU MUST BE VERY WISE TO HAVE MEMORIZED SO MANY BOOKS.
I SEE...
I think
ANYWAY, I USED TO PRETEND THAT I WAS THE STAR OF ONE OF THESE BOOKS. "IF TOBY BUCKLES DOWN AND DOES HIS HOMEWORK, TURN TO PAGE 12."
"IF HE PUTS HIS HOMEWORK ASIDE AND SNEAKS OUT TO PLAY MINI-GOLF, TURN TO PAGE 15."

SOMEHOW, IT MADE LIFE LESS DREARY IF I IMAGINED THAT WHEN THINGS HAPPENED IN MY LIFE, IT WAS BECAUSE I WAS CHOOSING WHICH PAGE TO TURN TO.
AND IF I COULD JUST LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE, I WOULD SEE THAT EACH CHOICE I MADE WAS STEERING ME AWAY FROM CERTAIN DEATH AND TOWARD THE "GOOD ENDING."
BUT NOW I'M STARTING TO WONDER IF IT WASN'T SOMEONE ELSE CHOOSING THE PAGES...

IF I DO THIS-- IF I BECOME THE GOBLIN KING...
...DOES IT MEAN I'VE FINALLY REACHED MY GOOD ENDING...
...OR IS THIS THE REAL BEGINNING?

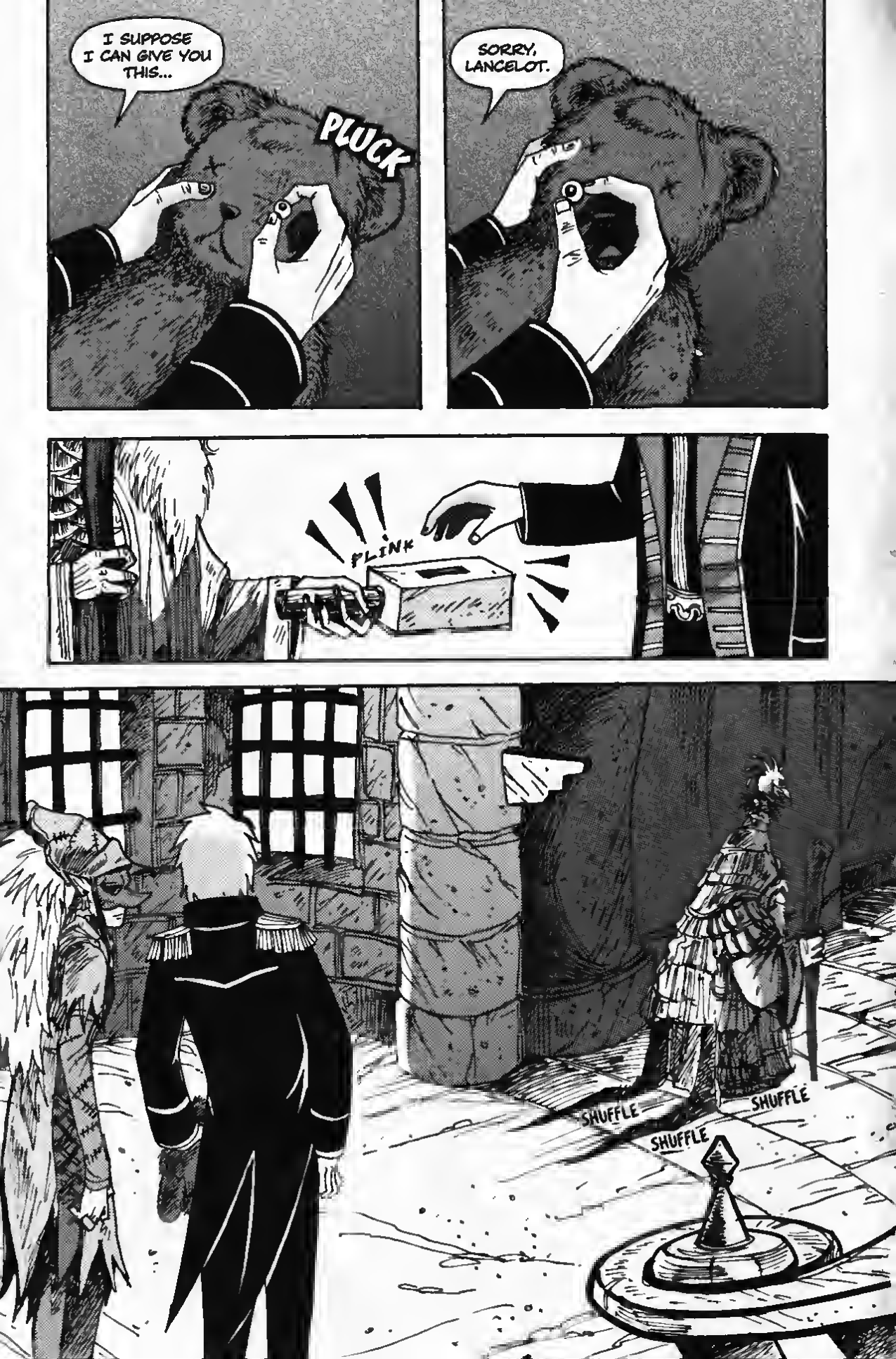
THE WISEMAN...
WHAT AM I, CHOPPED LIVER?
SOMETIMES, IN ORDER TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF...
...YOU MUST LEARN TO LET THE LEAVES TURN.

POOR GUY. THEY GOT YOU, TOO.
HERE, LET ME HELP YOU--
TOBY, NO!
HE'S THE WISEMAN-- OLDEST AND WISEST OF GOBLINS.
OH... SORRY.
WHAT ARE YOU APOLOGIZING TO HIM FOR?!
SO YOU ARE THE YOUNG MAN WHO IS TO BE OUR NEW KING.
THAT'S WHAT THEY TELL ME. BUT I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S WHAT I WANT.


YOU DON'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT.
BUT...
...
...YOU'LL FIND SOMETIMES THAT YOU GET...
...
WHAT YOU NEED.
I WAS GATHERING MOSS WAITING FOR YOU TO FINISH UP!
WHAT YOU NEED.

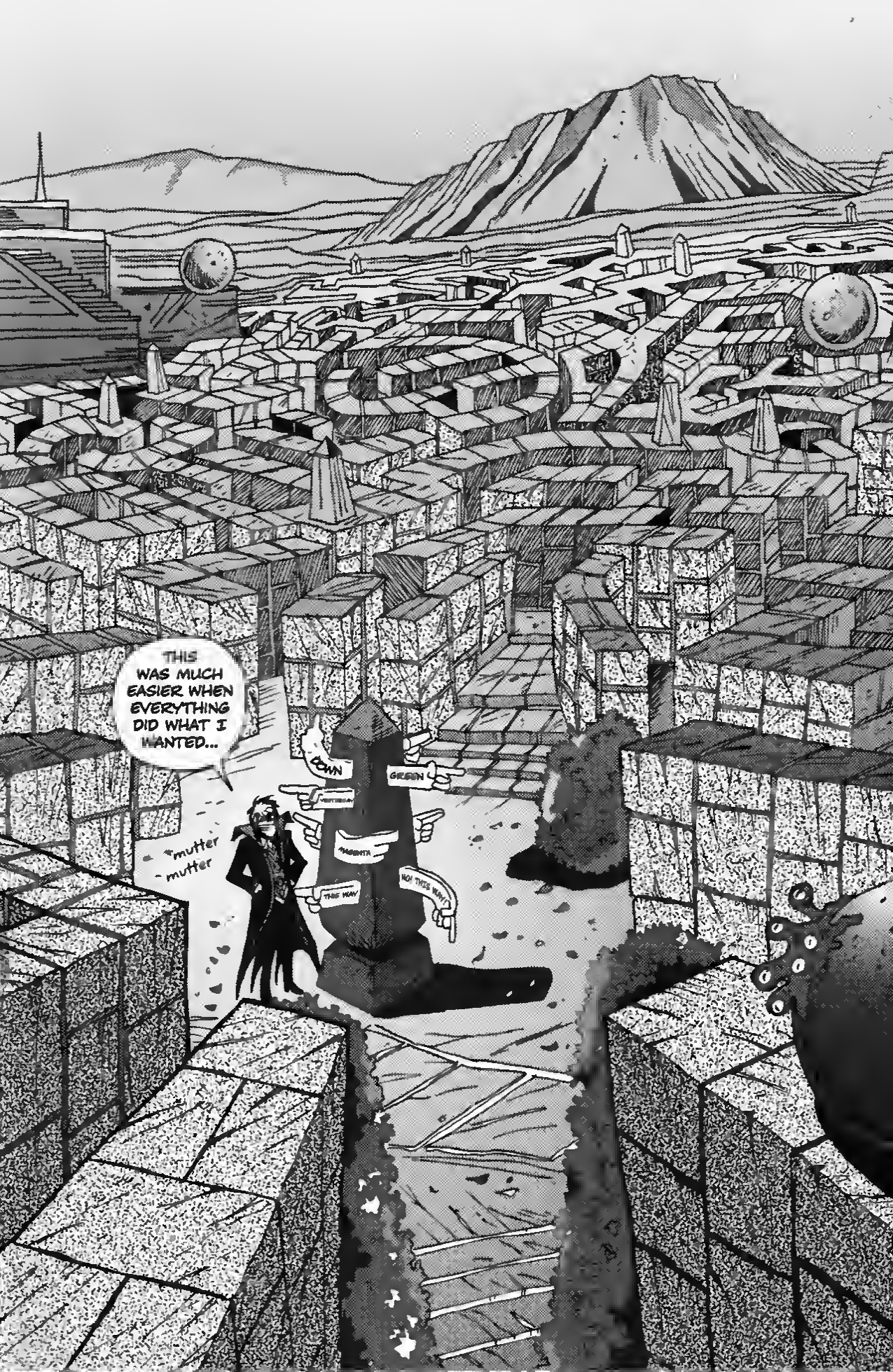
YOU'RE RIGHT!
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT WAS DESTINY, OR COINCIDENCE, OR JUST BAD LUCK THAT JARETH PICKED ME AS HIS HEIR.
WHAT MATTERS IS THAT I'M HERE NOW AND IT'S UP TO ME TO MAKE IT MEAN SOMETHING.
MOPPET, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT. MAYBE THIS ISN'T WHERE I BELONG.
BUT IF I GO BACK NOW-- IF I DON'T AT LEAST TRY TO DO SOMETHING WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY-- I'LL NEVER FIND OUT WHAT I REALLY WANT.
NO MORE RUNNING, NO MORE SHIRKING RESPONSIBILITY.
I AM GOING TO BE KING!
THANKS! YOU REALLY HELPED ME FIGURE THINGS OUT.
WHERE DID YOU GET ALL THAT RUBBISH?
He really IS wise.

SU DONACION, POR FAVOR.
AHEM.
JANGLE JANGLE
I THINK HE WANTS A DONATION.
OOH! WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO GIVE HIM.

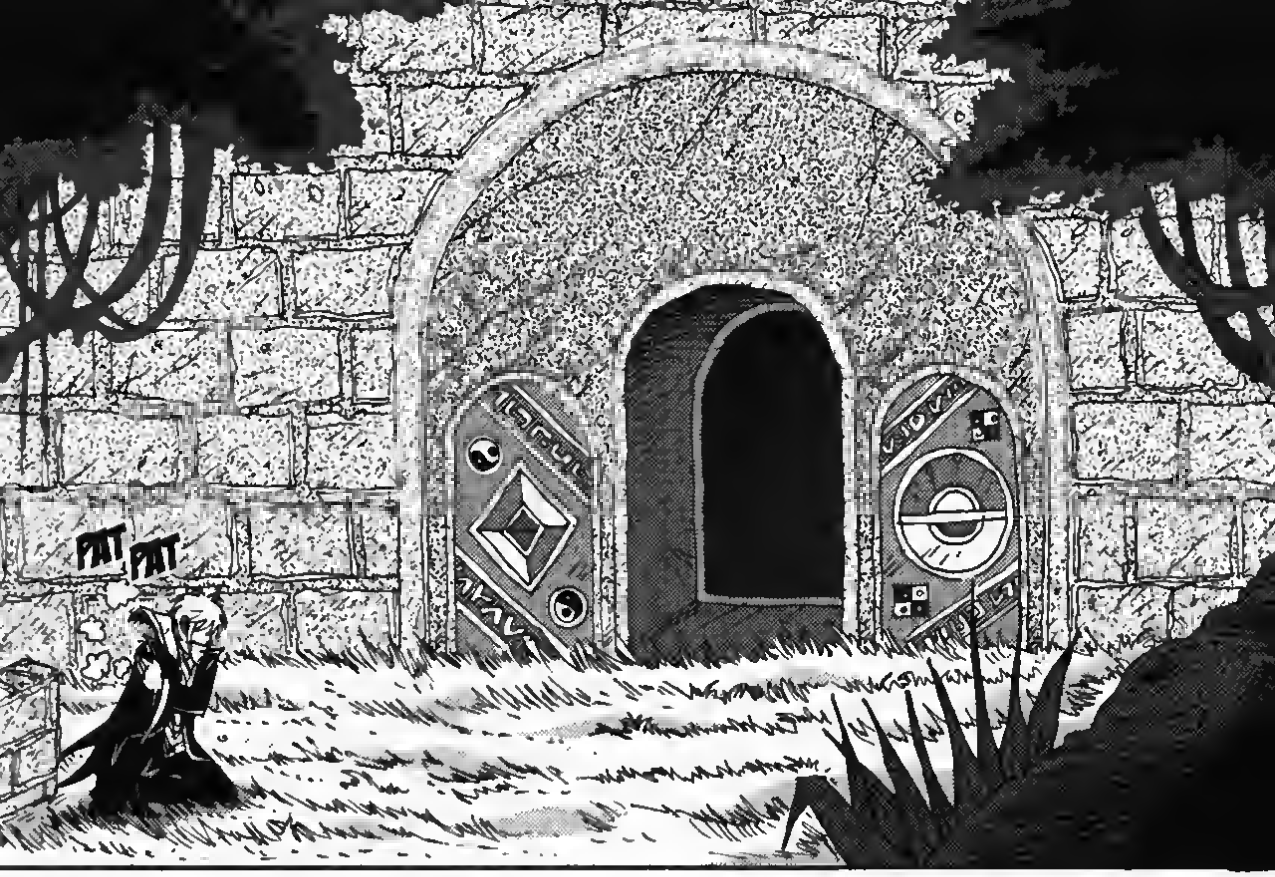

I SUPPOSE I CAN GIVE YOU THIS...
PLUCK
SORRY, LANCELOT.
PLINK
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE

TOBY, IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT BEING KING, I NEED YOUR PROMISE THAT YOU'LL PUT THE GOOD OF THE LABYRINTH FIRST.
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BE COUNTING ON YOU.
I PROMISE.
ALL RIGHT. LET'S GET YOU BACK TO THE CASTLE.
YOU HAVE A LOT TO PREPARE FOR.

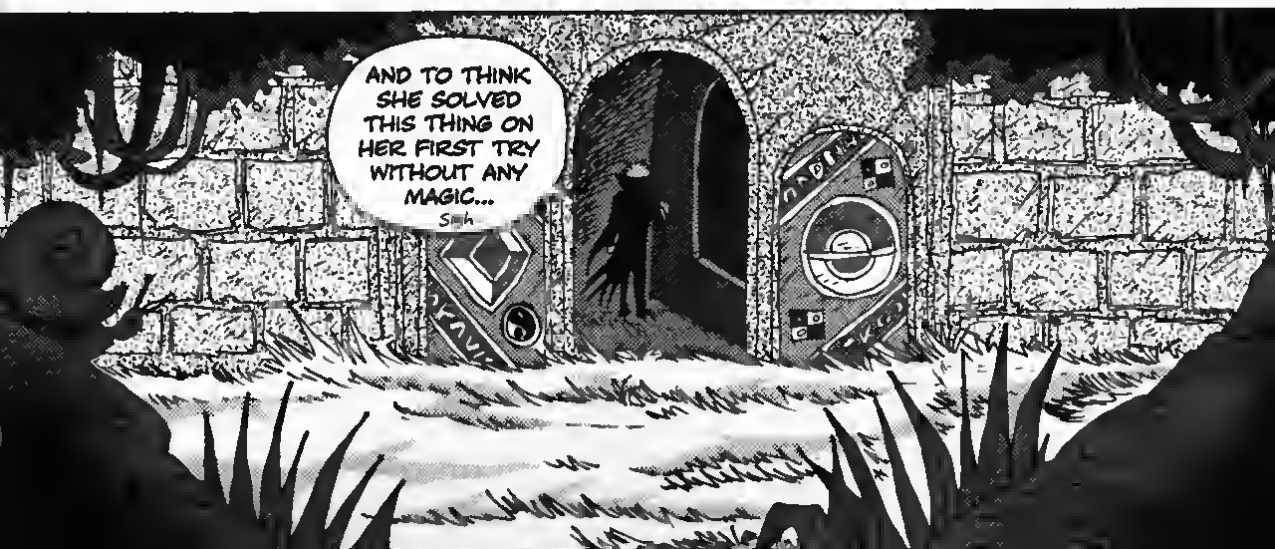
Chapter 3
EDUCATING TOBY


THIS WAS MUCH EASIER WHEN EVERYTHING DID WHAT I WANTED...
*mutter - mutter
DOWN
GREEN
MAGENTA
THIS WAY
NOT THIS WAY!

WAIT--
AAARRGHH!!
CLICK
THIS IS SO HUMILIATING...


PAT PAT

NOW, WHICH ONE WAS IT AGAIN...?
OH, OF COURSE!


AND TO THINK SHE SOLVED THIS THING ON HER FIRST TRY WITHOUT ANY MAGIC...
Sigh

IT WAS A GOOD REIGN, WASN'T IT?
I WONDER HOW MY "HEIR" IS DOING...

THIS IS WORSE THAN HIGH SCHOOL!
I TOLD YOU THIS WOULD NEVER WORK.
TOBY, REMEMBER WHAT YOU PROMISED.
I KNOW. YOU'RE RIGHT. CARRY ON, SPITTLEDRUM.
HMPH! NO MORE INTERRUPTIONS, I HOPE. NOW, FROM 9:42 TO 10:17 IS--
TWINKLE TWINKLE
YOU... YOU SAID MY NAME RIGHT...
YOU'RE THE MAYOR, RIGHT? IF WE'RE GOING TO BE WORKING TOGETHER, IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO.
YES, YES. OF COURSE, YES... NOW, WHERE WAS I?

AFTER INTRODUCTORY HOARDING, YOU'LL HAVE A PERSONAL CONSULTATION ON STRUT AND SWAGGER WITH PROFESSOR NYMBLIE. I HATE TO SEE POMP GETTING IN THE WAY OF ECONOMIC THEORY, BUT I'M SURE THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR PRIVATE TUTORING LATER.
YES, I'M SURE.
AH! AFTER LUNCH IT'S BACK TO FUNDAMENTALS. FROM 12:17 TO 2:48 IS THE HISTORY OF WARTS: WAGING AND WINNING THEM.
DON'T YOU MEAN "WARS"?
DON'T BE SILLY. YOU CAN LEARN ALL THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT THAT NONSENSE ON YOUR OWN TIME. WARTS ARE *MUCH* MORE IMPORTANT.
HOW DO YOU *WAGE* A *WART*?
IT'S QUITE SIMPLE, REALLY. FIRST YOU START WITH A TOAD, THEN YOU TAKE YOUR FINGERS LIKE SO, AND--
YOU MUSTN'T *OVERWHELM* POOR TOBY.

THERE ARE THINGS A KING SHOULD KNOW THAT A SIMPLE GOBLIN COULD NEVER TEACH.
THE POOR BOY ISN'T STUDYING TO BE A GOBLIN--HE'S TRAINING TO BE YOUR KING.
Little hobgoblins consistently have foolish minds.
Who are you calling a "hobgoblin"?!
MM. OF ALL THE--
SNAP!

LIKE MAGIC.
WITCH!
WHAT
POP
DID YOU
POP
DO WITH
POP
MY VOICE?!
POP
I CAN TEACH YOU HOW, AS WELL AS TECHNIQUES MUCH MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN THAT LITTLE TRICK. I SENSE YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE EVERY BIT AS POWERFUL A SORCERER AS JARETH.
EVEN MORE SO.
I'M SURE THAT IS WHY HE PICKED YOU AS HIS HEIR.

NO, THANK YOU. WE CAN DO JUST FINE WITHOUT YOUR HELP.
YOU SPEAK ABOVE YOUR POSITION, GOBLIN GIRL.
BUT THEN, YOU'RE NO GOBLIN, ARE YOU?
SHLOOOO
MIZUMI, STOP!
IF YOU ARE TO BE MY GUEST, I WON'T HAVE YOU TORMENTING MY FRIENDS.
MY APOLOGIES, YOUR MAJESTY.

AND, MOPPET, MAYBE SHE'S RIGHT.
I'M SURE ALL THAT GOBLIN STUFF IS IMPORTANT, AND I PROMISE TO STUDY IT, TOO...
...BUT LIKE WE DISCUSSED AT THE MUSEUM. I'VE GOT TO TAKE THIS JOB SERIOUSLY, AND THAT MEANS LEARNING EVERYTHING I CAN.
VERY WISE, YOUR MAJESTY.
TOMORROW. AS THE SUN SETS BEHIND THE WALLS OF THE LABYRINTH, MEET ME AT THE TOP OF THE NORTH TOWER.
THAT IS WHERE YOUR TRUE LESSONS WILL BEGIN.
OH! HOW COULD I FORGET?
A GIFT.

WHAT IS IT?
WATER. BUT NOT JUST ANY WATER-- WATER FROM MORAINE.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU POUR FROM THE PHIAL, IT WILL NEVER RUN DRY.
UNTIL YOU HAVE MASTERED YOUR OWN MAGIC, PERHAPS YOU WILL FIND IT USEFUL.
I SHALL SEE YOU TOMORROW, MY PRINCE.
TOBY, I THINK YOU'RE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE! I DON'T TRUST THAT WOMAN!
I DON'T TRUST HER EITHER.
BUT I CAN'T BE A GOOD KING IF I DON'T GET TO KNOW MY NEIGHBORS.

AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, A CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP IS IMMINENT IN THE LABYRINTH.
I'M SURE MANY OF YOU ARE AS DISGUSTED BY JARETH'S HEIR AS I AM...
...BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT WE STILL HAVE A LABYRINTH TO RUN.
SO, IN THE DAYS BEFORE TOBY'S CORONATION, I EXPECT EVERY GOBLIN, FROM MINISTER OF MALICE TO THE LOWLIEST BLUDGEON SCRUBBER, TO KEEP DOING THEIR DUTY WITH DIREST DILIGENCE!
ANY QUESTIONS?

YES?
WHO'S TOBY?
ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?
YES, SIR. EXCUSE ME SIR.
YOU'RE A MILITARY GOBLIN, BOY. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
UM, MR. SPITTLEDRUM. THAT'S JUST IT. SKUB WAS WONDERING IF THERE WERE ANY CASTLE JOBS HE COULD HAVE. SKUB WANTS TO HELP SERVE TOBY! HE'S MY FRIEND!
THE CASTLE IS NO PLACE FOR CRONIES! ONLY THE MOST DISCIPLINED, HARD-WORKING GOBLINS IN THE LABYRINTH ARE POSTED HERE.
...AND THEM.
IN ANY CASE, THERE AREN'T ANY OPEN POSITIONS. NOPE! NOT A ONE!
Scratch Scratch
KA-BOOM!!

WHAT THE BILGE BUCKETS WAS THAT?!
CLANK CLANK CLANK CLANK
IT'S THE COOK, SIR. SHE'S EXPLODED.
SHE'S WHAT?!
EXPLODED, SIR.
Chickens were involved...
SHE WAS THE BEST (AND ONLY) COOK IN THE LABYRINTH! WHO'S GOING TO COOK FOR THE NEW KING NOW?!
WHAT WAS SHE DOING WITH CHICKENS, ANYWAY?! SHE WASN'T PLANNING ON COOKING THEM, WAS SHE?! EEYUCH!
SKUB'S AN EXCELLENT COOK, MR. SPITTLEDRUM!

MY MOTHER TRAINED ME, AND SHE WAS THE GOBLIN WHO PREPARED THE GREAT FEAST OF PHOGRASS. YOU KNOW HOW TASTY THAT WAS!
THE MEAL WAS SO TASTY THAT WHEN MY MOTHER CAME OUT WITH THE BILL, THE DINERS MISTOOK HER FOR SECOND DESSERTS.
THEY SAY SHE TASTED DIVINE, BUT ALL SKUB TASTED WAS THE BITTER TEARS OF GRIEF. *SNIFFLE*
EVEN IF THERE WAS A GOBLIN ABLE TO DO THE JOB, IT'LL TAKE MONTHS TO FIND HIM A PROPER UNIFORM.
ACTUALLY, SIR, CHEF ESKUBAR'S UNIFORM MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED THE EXPLOSION. A FEW LETTERS WERE SINGED OFF THE MONOGRAM, BUT OTHERWISE IT'S GOOD AS NEW!
SKUB
WHY MUST FATE ALWAYS CONSPIRE TO CONTRADICT EVERYTHING I SAY!?!
FINE. YOU'RE HIRED. DINNER IS SERVED PROMPTLY AT 6:00. TRY NOT TO POISON ANYONE!

First Period: Economics
MY NAME IS PROFESSOR GLOCKENSTEAL, AND I'LL BE TEACHING YOU THE PRINCIPALS OF HOARDING.
LET'S START WITH THE BASICS.
12 - 7
SAY I HAVE TWELVE BOTTLES OF TROGSPIT, AND YOUR MAJESTY ASKS ME FOR SEVEN.
HOW MANY BOTTLES DO I HAVE LEFT?
FIVE.
What's the first grade math?
12 - 7
WRONG! YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE MY PRECIOUS TROGSPIT, WOULDN'T YOU? BUT YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY!
I HAVE TWELVE BOTTLES AND THAT ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE BECAUSE SOME HALF-PINT PRINCE LIKE YOU COMES BEGGING. THEY'RE MINE!

NEXT QUESTION!
12 - 7
PRETEND, JUST PRETEND, THAT I HAVE FOURTEEN SPINGE ROOTS AND YOUR MAJESTY DEMANDS THAT I GIVE YOU TEN OF THEM. HOW MANY SPINGE ROOTS DO I HAVE LEFT?
FOURTEEN. YOU KEEP THEM ALL.
EEEYUCK! DON'T MAKE ME SICK!
12 - 7
I'D GIVE YOU ALL FOURTEEN SPINGE ROOTS, AND WHEN YOU'RE KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS BY THE STENCH, I'D SEARCH YOUR POCKETS FOR ANYTHING OF VALUE AND SPLIT.
7
$
YOU REALLY AREN'T VERY GOOD AT THIS, ARE YOU?
Groan...

Second Period: Drama

THIS LOOK JUST ISN'T DOING IT FOR YOU.
I COULDN'T AGREE MORE.
CAN I KEEP THE RIDING CROP?
SNAP
Yelp!
WE'LL SEE.
MAYBE THIS ONE... HM, AND ONE OF THESE....
YES, THIS WILL BE PERFECT!
PERHAPS, PERHAPS...
NOW, PRACTICE WAVING YOUR HAND DISMISSIVELY WITH A SIGH OF ENNUI.
WHAT EXACTLY AM I LEARNING HERE?

SKUB
SO FILTHY...
SKUB
DON'T THINK OF IT AS FILTH.
THINK OF IT AS *FLAVOR.*

NAME'S SNODGRASS. YOU MUST BE THE NEW COOK.
Yer far too scrawny to be the main course.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU! TOGETHER, SKUB AND SNODGRASS WILL MAKE MANY TASTY MEALS FOR TOBY!
TODAY IS TOBY'S FIRST DAY OF GOBLIN KING SCHOOL, SO SKUB WILL BASE A MENU AROUND HIS FAVORITE FOOD--
SKUB
SKRICH SKRICH
MACARONI AND CHEESE!!
MAK N CHEEES

INGREDIENTS--CHEESE, FLOUR, BUTTER, SALT, ELBOWS...
DO WE HAVE ANY ELBOWS?
DOES IT SAY WHAT KIND?
SMALL SQUISHY ONES.
MAKE CHEESE
WE COULD USE SCAB-RATS. THEY GOTS FOUR ELBOWS EACH.
OR WOULD THOSE BE KNEES?
KNEES ARE FINE! JUST MAKE SURE TO BOIL AWAY THE SCABS.
SNODGRASS CAN MAKE KNEES AND SKUB WILL MAKE CHEESE.
Knees and cheese!
BUT WHERE DOES CHEESE COME FROM?

STEP 1-- SQUEEZE MILK OUT OF COW.
Cuping 4 Humen
MOO?
EAZY PEAZY!

STEP 2--ADD GERMS.
ALLOW ME.
PLOP
STEP 3-- WAIT 12 HOURS--
FWP
FWP
FWP
FWP
CURDS, WHEY, RINDS... SKUB CAN NEVER MAKE CHEESE BEFORE DINNER!
sob sob
My wings have got to be around here somewhere...

HUH?
SKUB WAS GOING TO MAKE TOBY'S FAVORITE DISH FOR DINNER, BUT SKUB DOESN'T HAVE THE INGREDIENTS.
WHAT'S WRONG, PIG-FACE?
sniffle
SKUB
POOR TOBY WILL STARVE AND IT IS ALL SKUB'S FAULT!
C'MON, KID. IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD. WHAT DO YOU NEED? WE'LL GET IT FOR YOU.
CHEESE. TASTY ORANGE CHEESE. BUT WHERE WILL HANA FIND CHEESE IN THE LABYRINTH?
SKUB
LEAVE THAT TO THE EXPERTS. IF THERE'S CHEESE WITHIN A HUNDRED MILES, STANK HERE WILL SNIFF IT OUT.
LET THE QUEST FOR THE CHEESE BEGIN!
GOOD LUCK!

Third Period: P.E.
FRIENDSHIP.
HONOR.
A MAIDEN'S LOVE.
A DUEL, ENTERED FOR NOBLE REASONS SUCH AS THESE, IS A SACRED ACT.
WHEN YOUR HEART IS PURE AND YOUR OPPONENT A CUR...
SWISH!
FWISH!
VICTORY IS ASSURED.
...IF YOU SWING YOUR SWORD LIKE THIS!
OR LIKE THIS!

OF COURSE, IT ALSO HELPS TO HAVE MASTERED A FEW TECHNIQUES, WHICH I, SIR DIDYMOUS, WOULD BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO IMPART TO YOUR MAJESTY.
UM... THANKS.
LADY MOULIN HAS BEEN GRACIOUS ENOUGH TO SERVE AS MY SPARRING PARTNER.
OF COURSE, I WOULD NEVER RAISE MY WEAPON AGAINST A LADY UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
EN GARDE!

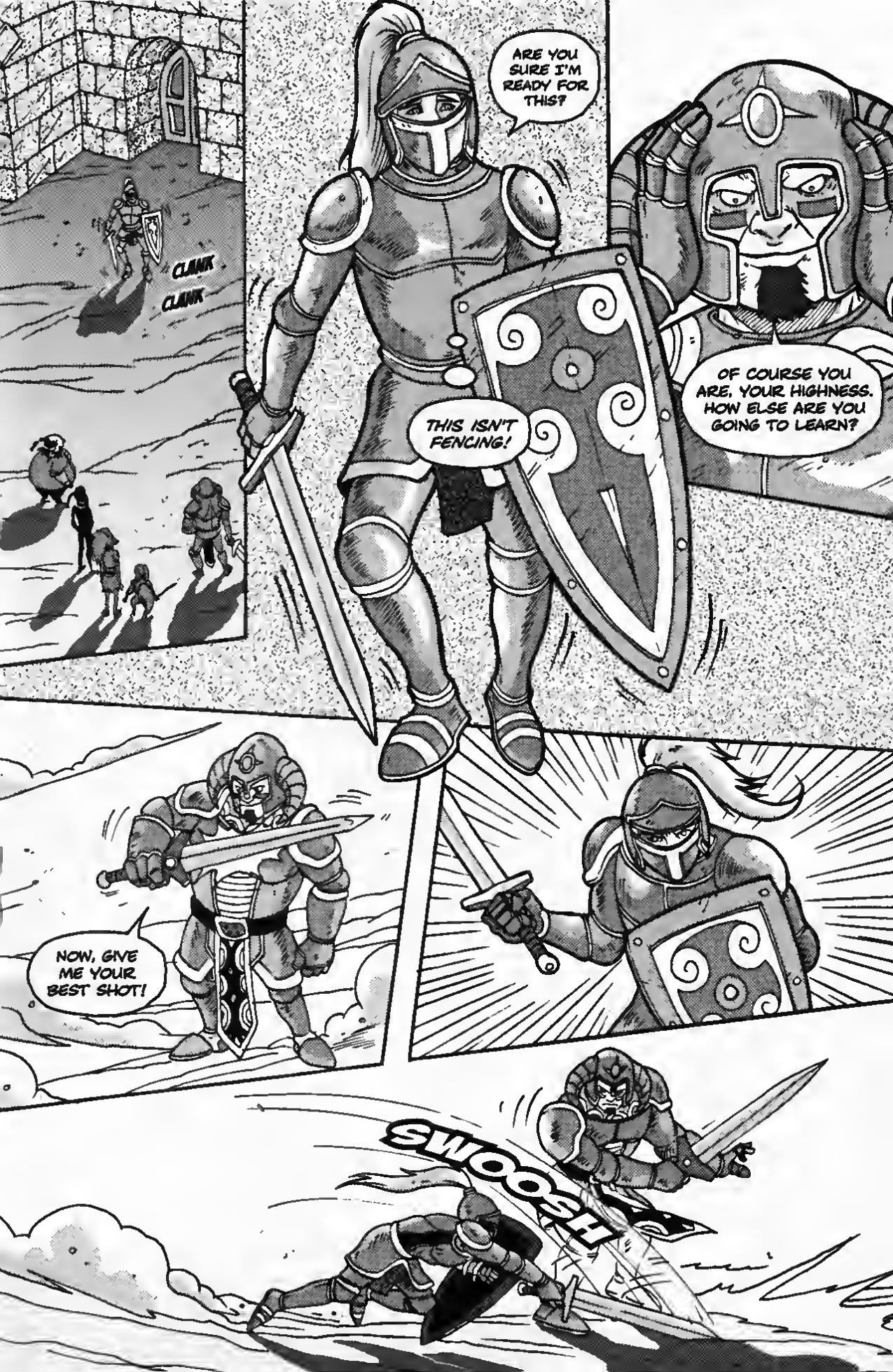
FIRST, THE LUNGE!
BACK STRAIGHT! LEFT LEG FIRMLY PLANTED! NOTE THE REACH!
NOW THE DISENGAGE.
CLINK
CLINK
CLINK
NOTICE HOW I ONLY MOVE THE WRIST. PRIME! SECUNDE! TIERCE!
RIPOSTE!
THWIK
FROISSEMENT!

CORPS-A-CORPS!
You smell lovely, my lady
GROWWRRRL
URK...
THMP
SPROING
WHOOOSH!

HO HO!
AN EXCELLENT DISPLAY, MY DEAR.
NOW I SHALL STEP ASIDE AND LET YOUR MAJESTY SPAR WITH THE LADY.
COOL! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO LEARN HOW TO FENCE.
PERHAPS YOUR MAJESTY WOULD CARE TO SPAR WITH AN OPPONENT MORE APPROPRIATE FOR A PRINCE.
CANDLEWIC!
UM... SURE...
NOT HIM!

ALL RIGHT, STANK. USE THAT NOSE OF YOURS AND FIND US SOME CHEESE.
sniff sniff
I'M SURE THE MUSEUM WON'T MISS THIS ONE BOX OF HUMAN FOOD...
Macaroni
BINGO.

ARROO!
STANK, STONE.
KLATTA
KLATTA
KLATTA
BE BACK IN A MINUTE. DON'T GO ANYWHERE!
59 seconds later...
RUN!
A FAERIE! SOMEBODY CALL AN EXTERMINATOR!


CLANK
CLANK
ARE YOU SURE I'M READY FOR THIS?
THIS ISN'T FENCING!
OF COURSE YOU ARE, YOUR HIGHNESS. HOW ELSE ARE YOU GOING TO LEARN?
NOW, GIVE ME YOUR BEST SHOT!
SWOOSH

KLANG!!
Gasp!
AGH! THAT HURT!
OF COURSE IT DOES. THIS ISN'T THE THEATER.
THIS TIME, COME AT ME LIKE YOU MEAN IT.

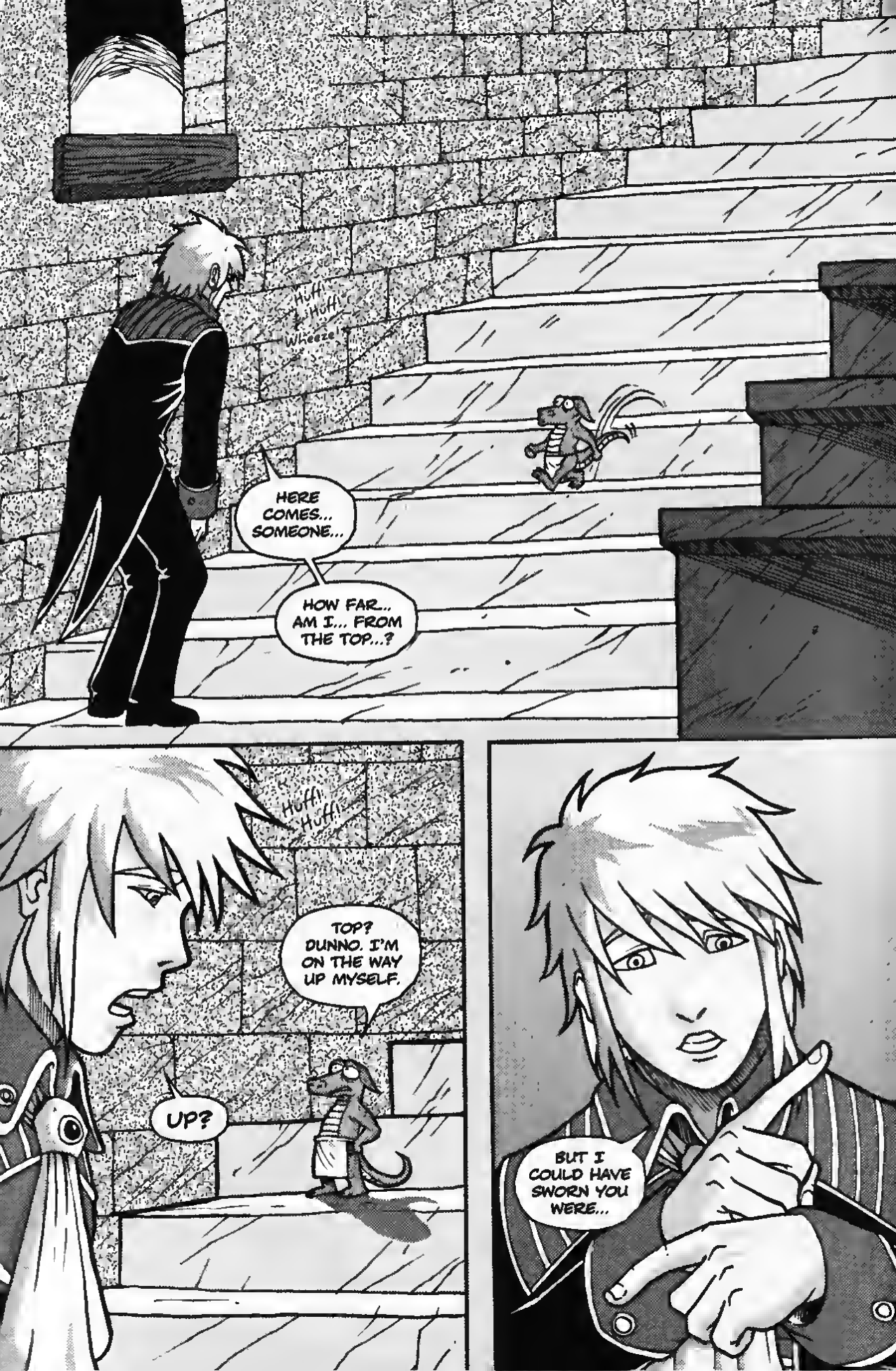
KLAK
WHAK
GO, TOBY!
DID YOU SEE THAT? I TAUGHT HIM THAT. VERY GOOD, VERY GOOD.
THOK
TOBY, BEHIND YOU!
KLUTK
KLUTK

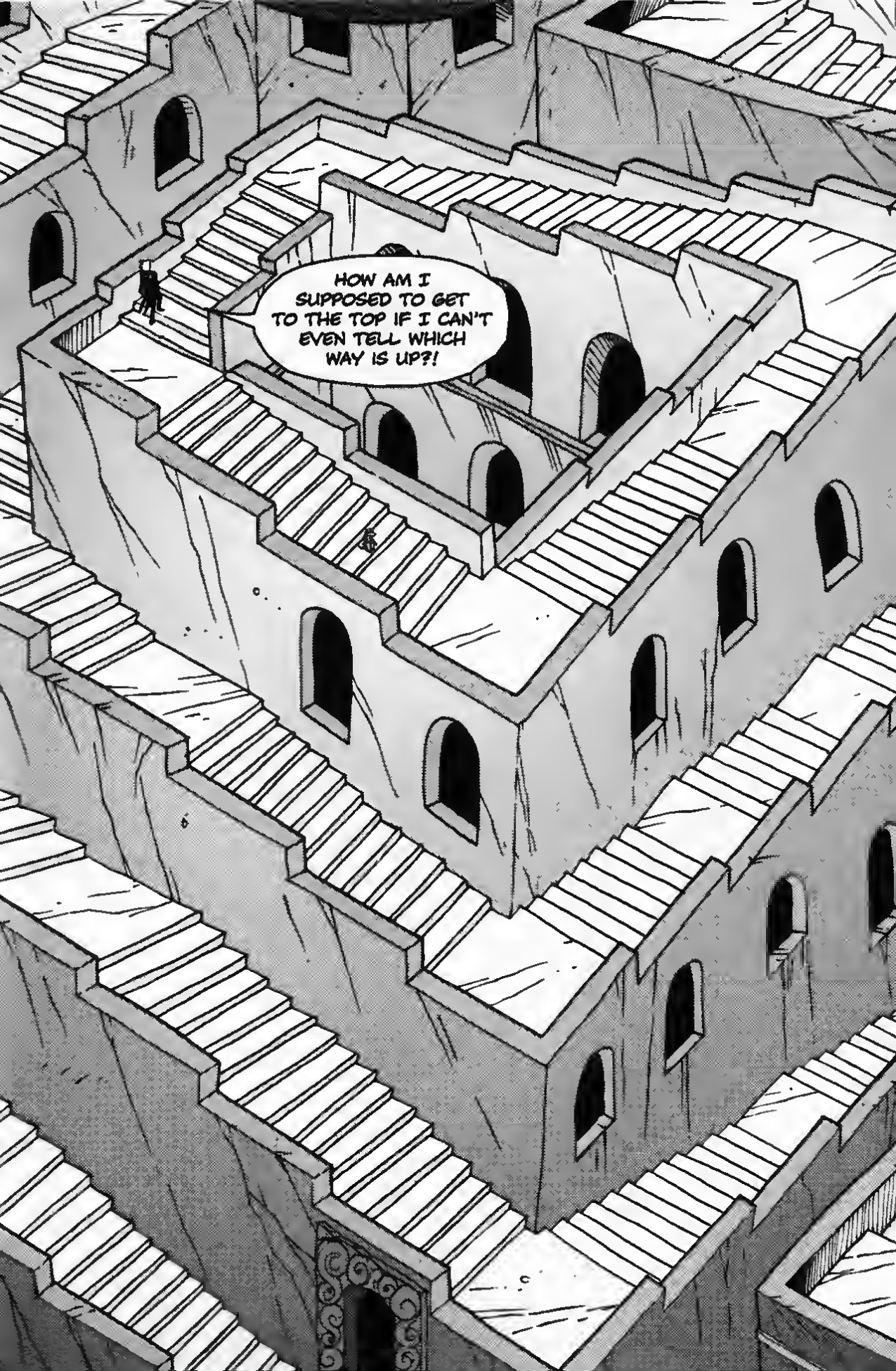
YOU, OUR KING? PATHETIC.
HE'S RIGHT. THIS IS PATHETIC. I WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO TO EVEN THE ODDS...

FZZT
FZZT
WHAT THE--?!
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
AAARGH!

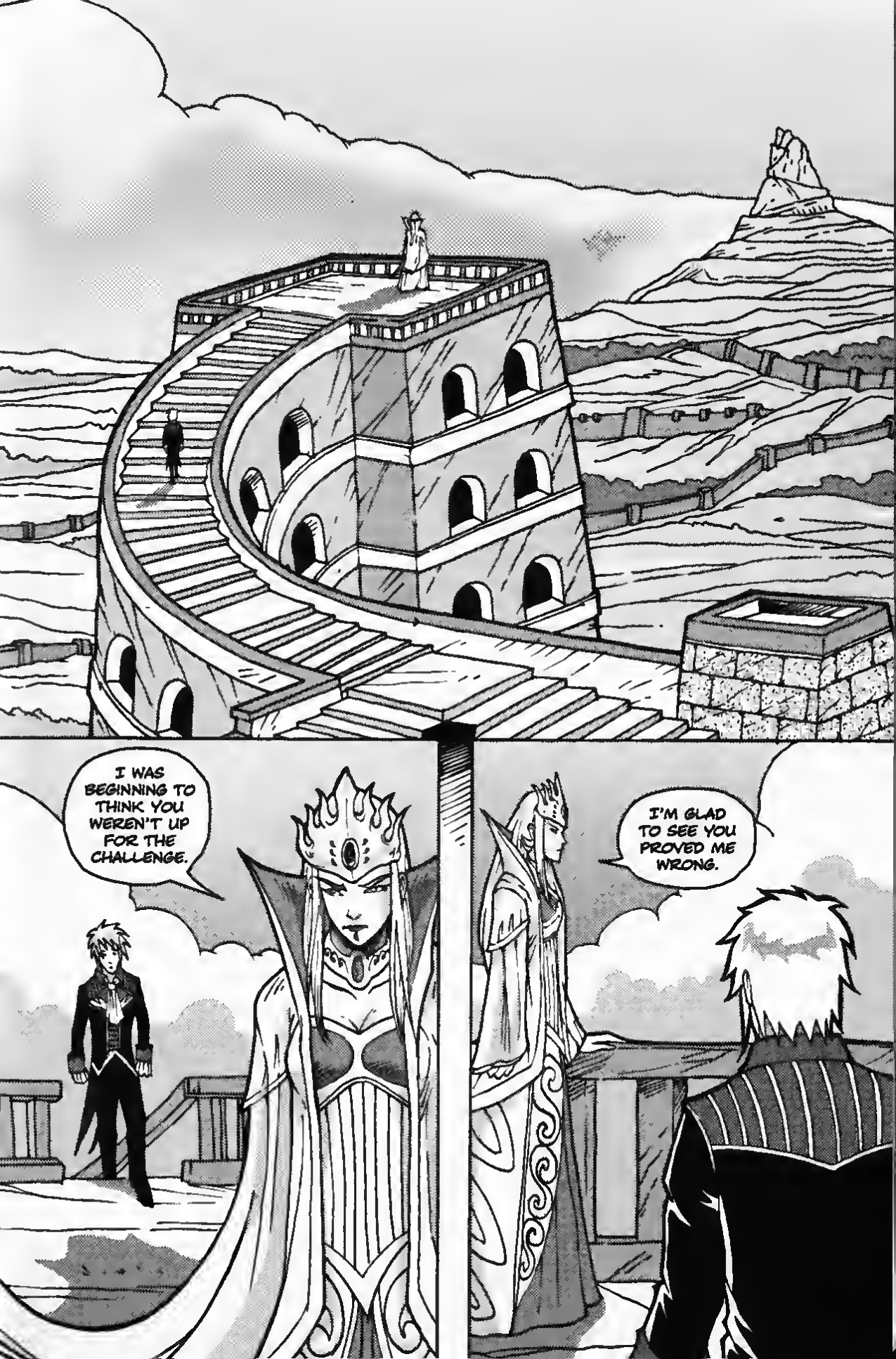
DID... DID I DO THAT?
I BELIEVE THIS ROUND GOES TO ME.
BAH!
TOBY...?
NOT NOW, MOPPET.
I'VE GOT ANOTHER LESSON TO GET TO.

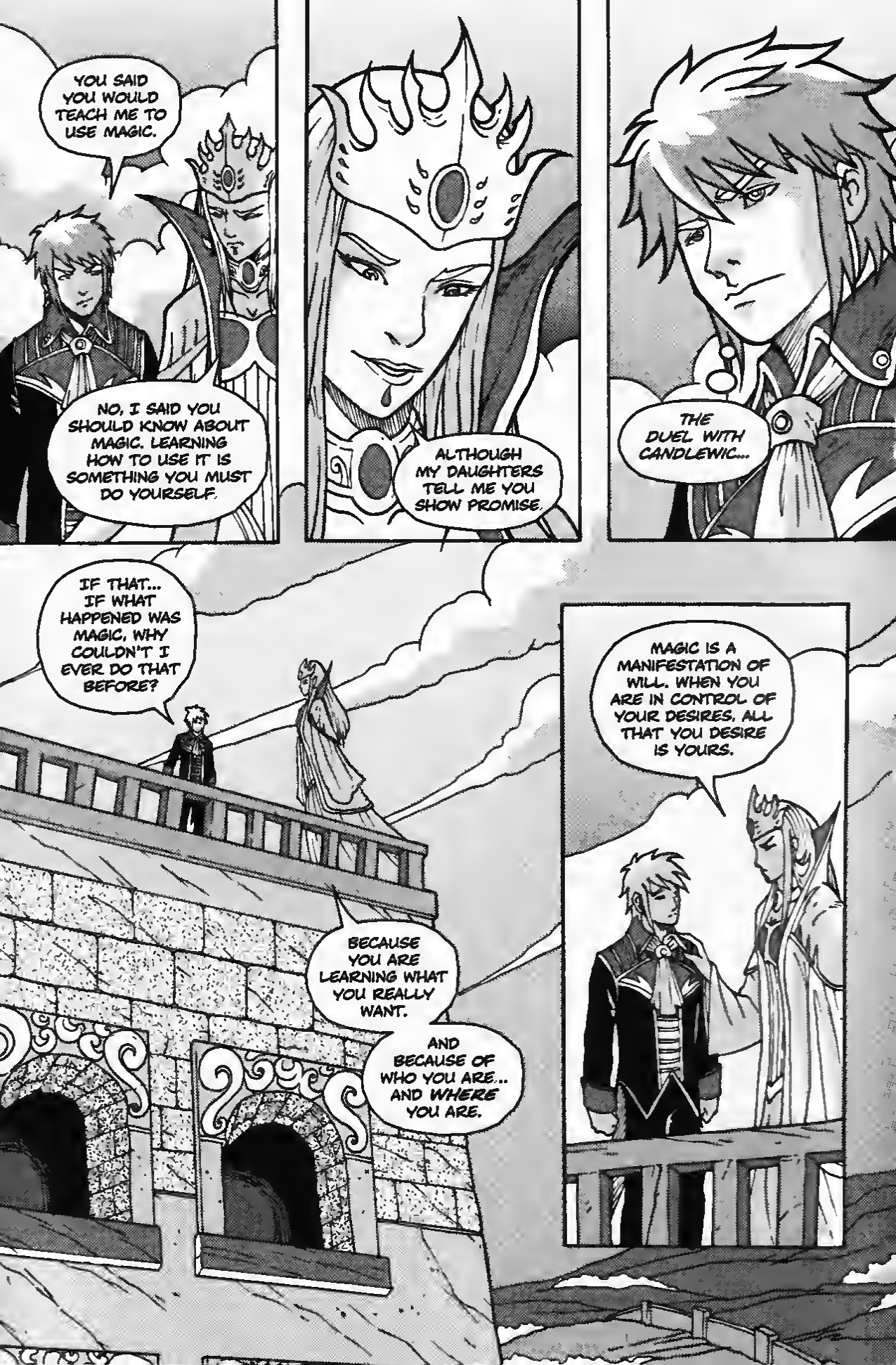
"AS THE SUN SETS BEHIND THE WALLS OF THE LABYRINTH, MEET ME AT THE TOP OF THE NORTH TOWER."
"THAT IS WHERE YOUR TRUE LESSONS WILL BEGIN."
MAGIC, HUH? LET'S DO THIS.
ALMOST THERE.
HOW TALL IS THIS TOWER?
If I don't get up there soon, I'll miss my lesson.
TMP TMP TMP


Huff!
Huff!
Wheeze!
HERE COMES... SOMEONE...
HOW FAR... AM I... FROM THE TOP...?
Huff!
Huff!
TOP? DUNNO. I'M ON THE WAY UP MYSELF.
UP?
BUT I COULD HAVE SWORN YOU WERE...


HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GET TO THE TOP IF I CAN'T EVEN TELL WHICH WAY IS UP?!

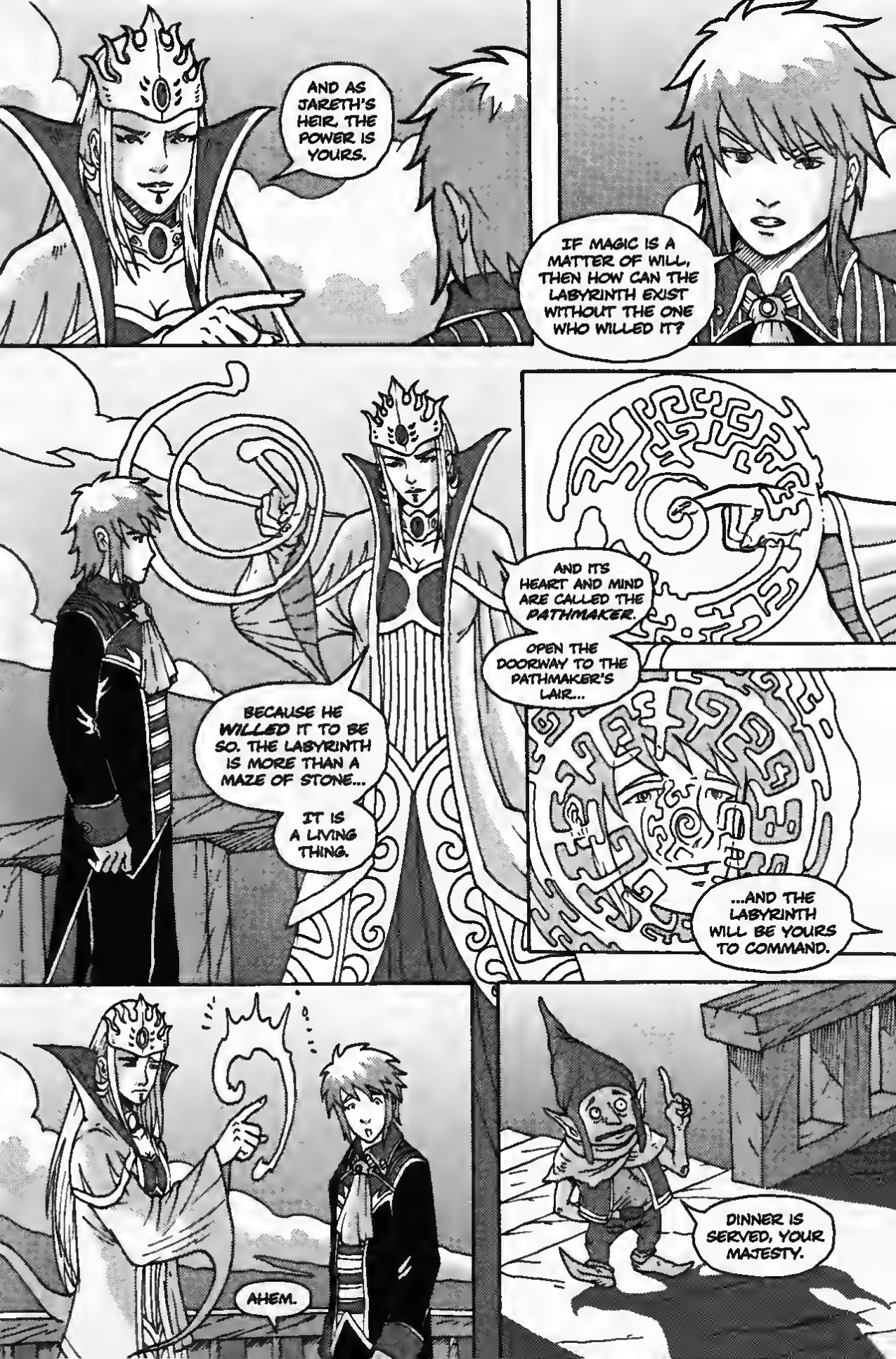
MIZUMI'S GIFT!
POP
EVEN IN THIS PLACE, WATER STILL FLOWS DOWNHILL.
SO THIS MUST BE THE RIGHT WAY.
PLOP!


I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK YOU WEREN'T UP FOR THE CHALLENGE.
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU PROVED ME WRONG.


YOU SAID YOU WOULD TEACH ME TO USE MAGIC.
NO, I SAID YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MAGIC. LEARNING HOW TO USE IT IS SOMETHING YOU MUST DO YOURSELF.
ALTHOUGH MY DAUGHTERS TELL ME YOU SHOW PROMISE.
THE DUEL WITH CANDLEWIC...
IF THAT... IF WHAT HAPPENED WAS MAGIC, WHY COULDN'T I EVER DO THAT BEFORE?
BECAUSE YOU ARE LEARNING WHAT YOU REALLY WANT.
AND BECAUSE OF WHO YOU ARE... AND WHERE YOU ARE.
MAGIC IS A MANIFESTATION OF WILL. WHEN YOU ARE IN CONTROL OF YOUR DESIRES, ALL THAT YOU DESIRE IS YOURS.

WHEN I FIRST MET HIM, JARETH HAD THE STRONGEST WILL OF ANY MAN I'D EVER MET. HIS POWER WAS INFINITE.
I LOVED HIM ABSOLUTELY, AND I THOUGHT HE FELT THE SAME.
MY POWER AND HIS BECAME LIKE NOTES OF A COMMON CHORD.
BUT THEN...
...EVERYTHING CHANGED.

HE LOCKED HIMSELF IN HIS CASTLE. HE CREATED THE LABYRINTH TO KEEP EVERYONE OUT...
...INCLUDING ME.
THAT BOUNDLESS POWER THAT WAS ONCE SO BEAUTIFUL... THAT I FELL IN LOVE WITH...
...IT IS NO LONGER WITH JARETH.
HE EXTERNALIZED IT IN ORDER TO ISOLATE HIMSELF, BUT HE MADE THE MISTAKE OF LETTING SOMEONE IN...
...AND HE LOST THE ABILITY TO CONTROL IT.
JARETH IS GONE, BUT HIS POWER REMAINS.
HIS POWER IS THE LABYRINTH.


AND AS JARETH'S HEIR, THE POWER IS YOURS.
IF MAGIC IS A MATTER OF WILL, THEN HOW CAN THE LABYRINTH EXIST WITHOUT THE ONE WHO WILLED IT?
BECAUSE HE WILLED IT TO BE SO. THE LABYRINTH IS MORE THAN A MAZE OF STONE...
IT IS A LIVING THING.
AND ITS HEART AND MIND ARE CALLED THE PATHMAKER.
OPEN THE DOORWAY TO THE PATHMAKER'S LAIR...
...AND THE LABYRINTH WILL BE YOURS TO COMMAND.
AHEM.
DINNER IS SERVED, YOUR MAJESTY.

TOBY MUST BE EXHAUSTED WITH HIS HEAD ALL FULL OF LEARNINGS, SO SKUB MADE TOBY'S FAVORITE DISH FOR DINNER!
IS TOBY PLEASED?
TOOK A BATH IN THE CHEESE SAUCE.
I'M GOING TO STARVE!

Chapter 4
SECRET PLACES

THE WEEK'S ALMOST OVER. THE CORONATION IS NEAR. HOW GOES TOBY'S STUDIES? I'M DYING TO HEAR.
HE'S A STUNNER!
PROFESSOR NYMBLIE
FASHION ADVISOR
HE PUFFS OUT HIS CHEST LIKE A FISH IN THE SUN. HIS VAINGLORIOUS SPLENDOR IS SECOND TO NONE!
PROFESSOR GLOSSPAN
NOTED PHILOSOPHER
HE'S QUICKER WITH RIDDLES THAN HOBBITS OR SPHINXES. CONUNDRUMS AND PUZZLES HE ALWAYS OUTTHINKSES!
PROFESSOR GLOCKENSTEAL
MONEY GUESSER
I'VE BEEN SWINDLED, BAMBOOZLED AND LEFT IN THE LURCH. HIS FISCAL ADEPTNESS I DARE NOT BESMIRCH.

A WONDER!
A MARVEL!
A WHIZ!
INSUFFICIENT ARE WORDS TO DESCRIBE WHAT HE IS.
PROFESSOR JODHSPUR
RIDING AND JUSTING
HE DON'T LOOK LIKE A JOCK, BUT A FINE JOCKEY HE! TOBY'S SWIFT IN THE SADDLE, NAT'RAL-BORN CAVALRY.
SIR DIDYMOUS
WITH SIR TOBY AROUND, DAMSELS NEED NOT DESPAIR. LIKE A WHIFF FROM A BOG, HE'S A BREATH OF FRESH AIR!
PANJAN SPITTLEDRUM
WHERE IS MADAME MIZUMI? SHE'S HAD MUCH TO EXHORT IN MATTERS OF MAGIC. NOW WHERE'S HER REPORT?!

THE BOY'S A DOLT.
MOTHER?
A DUMMY! A DUNCE! A HALFWIT! A BOOB!
MOTHER!

BY RIGHTS, THE LABYRINTH IS MINE, BUT ONLY THE PATHMAKER CAN CONTROL THE LABYRINTH, AND HE ANSWERS ONLY TO THE GOBLIN KING.
IF TOBY CAN'T FIND THE PATHMAKER, HE'S OF NO USE TO ME.
YOU'RE A SLY ONE, JARETH, BUT YOU UNDERESTIMATE MY DETERMINATION.
WE MUST EITHER MAKE TOBY A WORTHY CANDIDATE...
...OR REPLACE HIM.
WHAT ABOUT THE RULES? TOBY WOULD NEVER NAME YOU HIS HEIR--HE'S SMARTER THAN THAT.
Barely.
NO ONE CAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF DESTINY, MOTHER. NOT EVEN YOU.
DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT TOBY. JUST MAKE SURE HIS LITTLE FRIENDS DON'T GET IN MY WAY.
I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO CHANGE DESTINY...
...BUT I CAN OUT-SMART IT.

DID I LOSE THEM?
I THINK I LOST THEM...
STAGGER STAGGER
THM THM THM THM
RMBL RMBL RMBL RMBL
THM THM THM
Not again!
WHUMP!

WOOSH!
HEH HEH HEH...
Aieee!
THWACK!
POCK!

I'M BRINGIN' HER HOME, BOYS!
FIRE!
BOOM!
AAH!
SLAM!
PLINK
THM
THM
THM
THM
THM

YAAAAAAAAY!
GO, TOBY!
YAWN...
GO TOBY
YAAAAAAAAY!
THUNK
WHACK!

HOOORAAAY!!
TOBY!
TOBY!
HEY, TOBY! CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GOAL. NOW, ABOUT MY WINGS...
NOT NOW, HANA. IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE! I'LL HELP YOU FIND THEM LATER, I PROMISE.
I THINK YOU'LL AGREE THAT THE ONE ON THE RIGHT GOES VERY WELL WITH YOUR COMPLEXION.
YOU SAID YOU'D HELP ME FIND MY WINGS, REMEMBER?
THIS REALLY ISN'T A GOOD TIME, HANA.

YOUR RECIPES ARE REALLY GETTING BETTER!
SKUB ENDEAVORS TO PLEASE PRINCE TOBY!
WINGS?
HERE!
Grr...
YOU PROMISED!
I'M EXHAUSTED! ASK ME TOMORROW.

ASK YOU TOMORROW, HUH? WHY BOTHER WHEN I KNOW WHAT YOU'D SAY, YOU ARROGANT, LYING, GOBLIN TOADY!
I CAN HELP YOU SEARCH.
ZZZZZ
THANKS FOR THE OFFER, BUT WITHOUT TOBY'S ACCESS, HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET ANYWHERE?
WITH THESE!
I BORROWED THEM FROM MASTER SPITTLEDRUM.
"BORROWED"?
THERE'S HOPE FOR YOU YET, KIDDO.

THAT'S RIGHT... LET THE IMAGE OF THE TEACUP MELT AWAY. NOW THE WORD. WORDS ARE JUST SHACKLES, KEEPING YOU FETTERED TO A LIMITED REALITY.
LET THE LETTERS DISAPPEAR, ONE AT A TIME.
DID IT WORK?!
YOU TURNED OOLONG INTO EARL GREY.
YES... THERE IS NO NAME, THERE IS NO OBJECT--JUST POTENTIAL.

YES!
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO TURN THE TEACUP INTO A TULIP.
And he showed such potential during his duel...
OH YEAH...
THERE, THERE, TOBY, IT WAS STILL A MOST IMPRESSIVE FEAT. MAGIC IS MAGIC.
THAT'S TRUE.
AND I SUPPOSE YOU'VE STILL HAD NO LUCK WITH THE PATHMAKER?
NO...
YOUR CORONATION IS JUST ONE DAY AWAY, MY LIEGE. SUCH A YOUNG MAN BECOMING GOBLIN KING--IT'S MOST UNPRECEDENTED.
OF COURSE, NO ONE COULD POSSIBLY CHALLENGE THE VALIDITY OF YOUR ASCENSION--NOT WITH ALL OF THE PROPHECIES.

PROPHECIES? WHAT PROPHECIES?
DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED YOUR PROPHECIES!
MY DEAR BOY, WITHOUT PROPHECIES, HOW ARE YOUR SUBJECTS TO KNOW THAT YOUR REIGN IS INEVITABLE?
AREN'T PROPHECIES PREDICTIONS THAT SOMEONE ELSE MAKES?
Unless you're delusional or starting a cult or something?
OF COURSE. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF PROPHECIES OUT THERE THAT OTHER PEOPLE HAVE MADE. YOU JUST HAVE TO PICK THE RIGHT ONES AND APPLY THEM TO YOURSELF.
Everyone knows that
IT'S NOT TOO LATE, MY LIEGE. WE'LL GET THIS STRAIGHTENED OUT.
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO THE MINISTRY OF PROPHECIES, OF COURSE!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ONCE YOU GET YOUR WINGS BACK?
I DON'T KNOW... I HADN'T REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
REALLY?
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY?! I'M GONNA SEE THE WORLD? ROB THE GOBLIN TREASURY? FLY TO THE MOON?
MY WINGS ARE A PART OF ME. IT'S LIKE THEY TOOK AWAY MY IDENTITY. YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.
I UNDERSTAND. ONLY TOO WELL.

THIS ONE LOOKS IMPOSING. LET'S GIVE IT A SHOT.
THAT'S FUNNY... NONE OF THE KEYS FIT THE LOCK.
ALLOW ME.
CLICK!
KREEEEEEAK

SOMETHING FEELS VERY WRONG ABOUT THIS PLACE...
TELL ME ABOUT IT. SINCE WHEN DO GOBLINS DECORATE WITH FLOWERS?
IN ANY CASE, IT'S OBVIOUS NO ONE STASHED MY WINGS IN HERE. LET'S GO.
WAIT! NOT YET...

IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL...
WHOEVER SLEPT HERE MUST HAVE BEEN AWFULLY IMPORTANT.
IMPORTANT, HUH? THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE DOOR? IT'S LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A PRISON.
IT WAS PROBABLY JUST FOR SECURITY. TO KEEP OUT THIEVING FAERIES.
WHO'S THIEVING?!
HUH...?
CHECK OUT THE FANCY THREADS...
FASHION SHOW! FASHION SHOW!

HOW DO I LOOK?
LIKE A PRINCESS.
Whoa...
RAROO...

WHAT'S THIS...?
SHF SHF
CLICK
I KNOW THAT SONG... WHY DO I KNOW THAT SONG?

THAT MUSIC... THIS DRESS... I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.
THIS ROOM... IT ISN'T RIGHT. THIS PLACE... THESE THINGS... THEY DON'T BELONG HERE...
I DON'T BELONG HERE.
LOVE ME.

WE HAVE TO LEAVE...
NO, NO, NO!
CLICK!
TRMBL TRMBL TRMBL
WE'RE TRAPPED!

CAN I HELP YOU?
WE'D LIKE TO SEE ABOUT A PROPHECY.

MM-HM. AND WHAT PRECISELY IS THE OCCASION?
TOBY HERE IS GOING TO BE KING TOMORROW.
FROUD
KING, EH? NICE AND SIMPLE. LOTS OF PROPHECIES ABOUT KINGS.
YOU...AREN'T A GOBLIN, ARE YOU?
NOT REALLY.
DON'T GET A LOT OF VISITORS HERE. 'COURSE, I COULD HAVE TOLD THEM THAT. FIRST PROPHECY IN THE COLLECTION: "NO ONE WILL EVER VISIT THE MINISTRY OF PROPHECIES."
THIS WAY.
FAIRY TALES

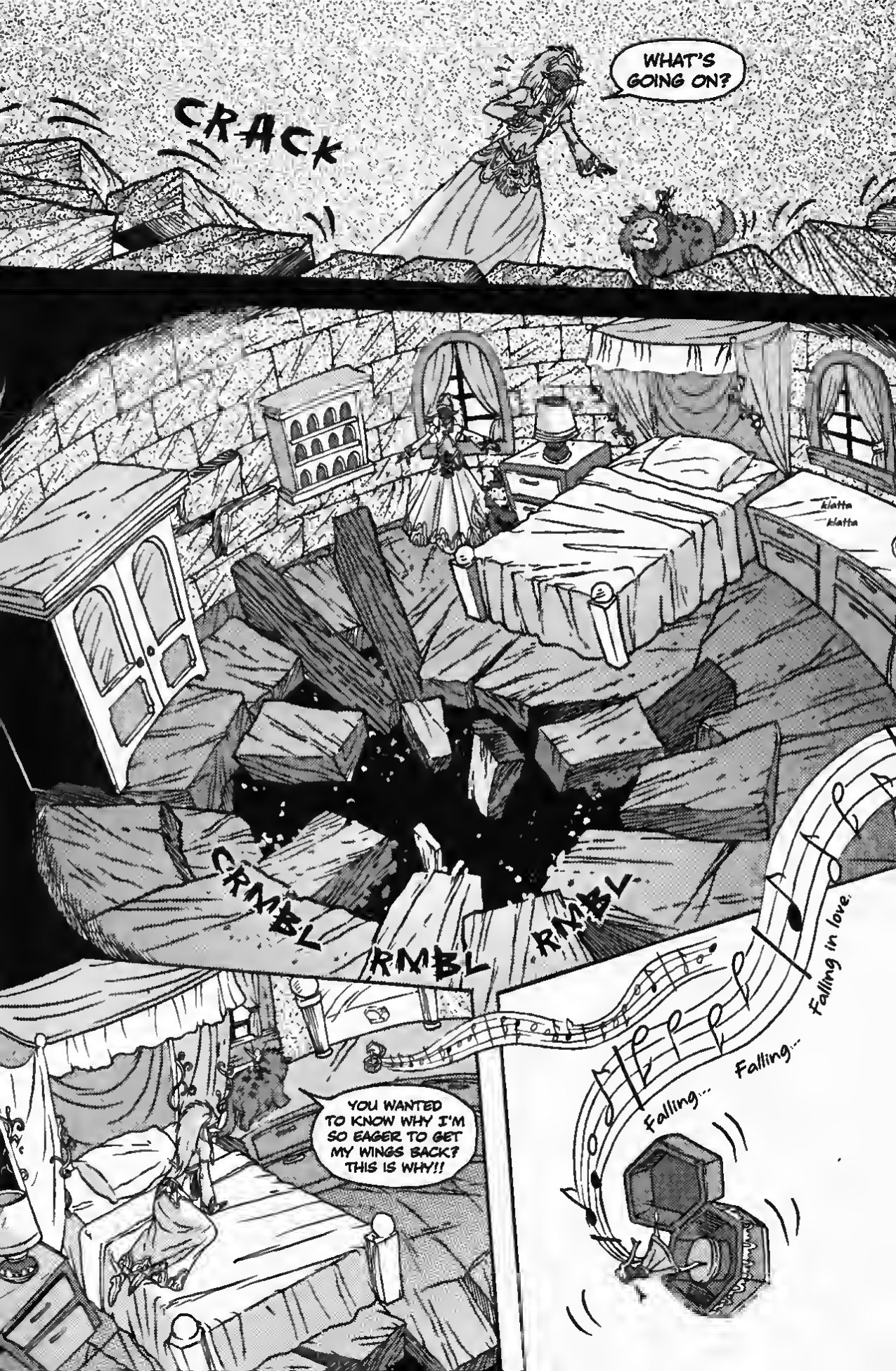
COULD HAVE SPARED THEM A LOT OF TROUBLE, BUT DID THEY LISTEN TO ME? NOOO. THEN AGAIN, IT WOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A LABYRINTH IF EVERYTHING MADE SENSE, NOW WOULD IT?
GUESS NOT.
AH, HERE WE GO.

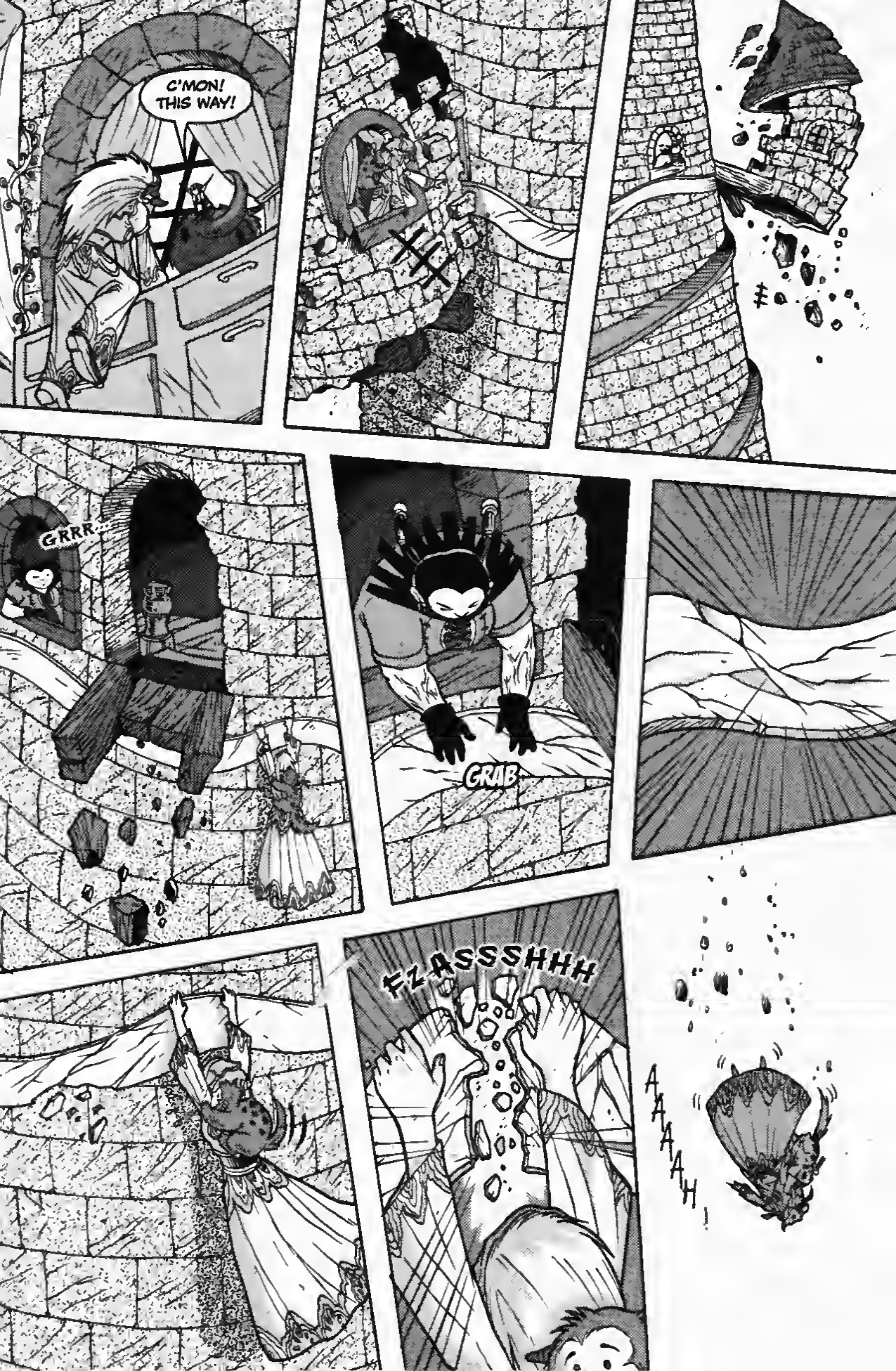
"AT A CERTAIN PLACE, AT AN UNDISCLOSED TIME, THERE MAY OR MAY NOT OCCUR..."
TOO VAGUE.
HMM... WELL, THIS ONE'S CRYSTAL CLEAR!
"WHEN SINGLE SHINES THE TRIPLE SUN..."
CRYSTAL CLEAR? YOU MUST BE CRACKED! KEEP GOING!
"SONS OF ADAM AND DAUGHTERS OF EVE...."
YOUR FATHER ISN'T NAMED ADAM IS HE?
NO, ROBERT.
PITY.
AH! HERE'S A GOOD ONE.
WHEN KING OF OLD FORSAKES HIS HALL,
AND CHAOS COMES TO GOBLIN TOWN
A HUMAN BOY SHALL HEED THE CALL
THE LONG-LOST HEIR SHALL DON THE CROWN.

SHH! IT GOES ON...
A PROMISE OF YORE, BORN OF BLOOD
WILL OPEN PATH TO LABYRINTH'S HEART
AND USHER FORTH A WONDROUS FLOOD--
A NEW ERA THEN SHALL START.
SEE? IT RHYMES! ISN'T THAT NICE?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT BLOOD?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. EVERY PROPHECY HAS A LITTLE FINE PRINT. IT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING.
NOW, SHOULDN'T WE BE GETTING BACK TO THE CASTLE? I'M SURE YOUR FRIENDS ARE DYING TO SEE YOU...
WAIT!
WHY DOESN'T ANYONE WAIT TILL THE END?
Sigh...
A promise of yore
born of blood
Will open path
Labyrinth's heart
usher forth a
blood
era then
start
When friends are few
and family lost
and prince cast into
dark abyss
The Labyrinth and
rightful heir shall
be restored by
true love's kiss.

BOO.

CHIAFF
CHIAFF
SLAP!
FSHHH
DRY ROT.


CRACK
WHAT'S GOING ON?
klatta klatta
CRMBL
RMBL
RMBL
YOU WANTED TO KNOW WHY I'M SO EAGER TO GET MY WINGS BACK? THIS IS WHY!!
Falling...
Falling...
Falling in love


C'MON! THIS WAY!
GRRR...
GRAB
FZASSSHHH
AAAAAH!

HEE HEE HEE.
THUMP!
RATS.
TWEEE-WEEE!

PERK!
SWOOOSH
SHAAA
KRSSH

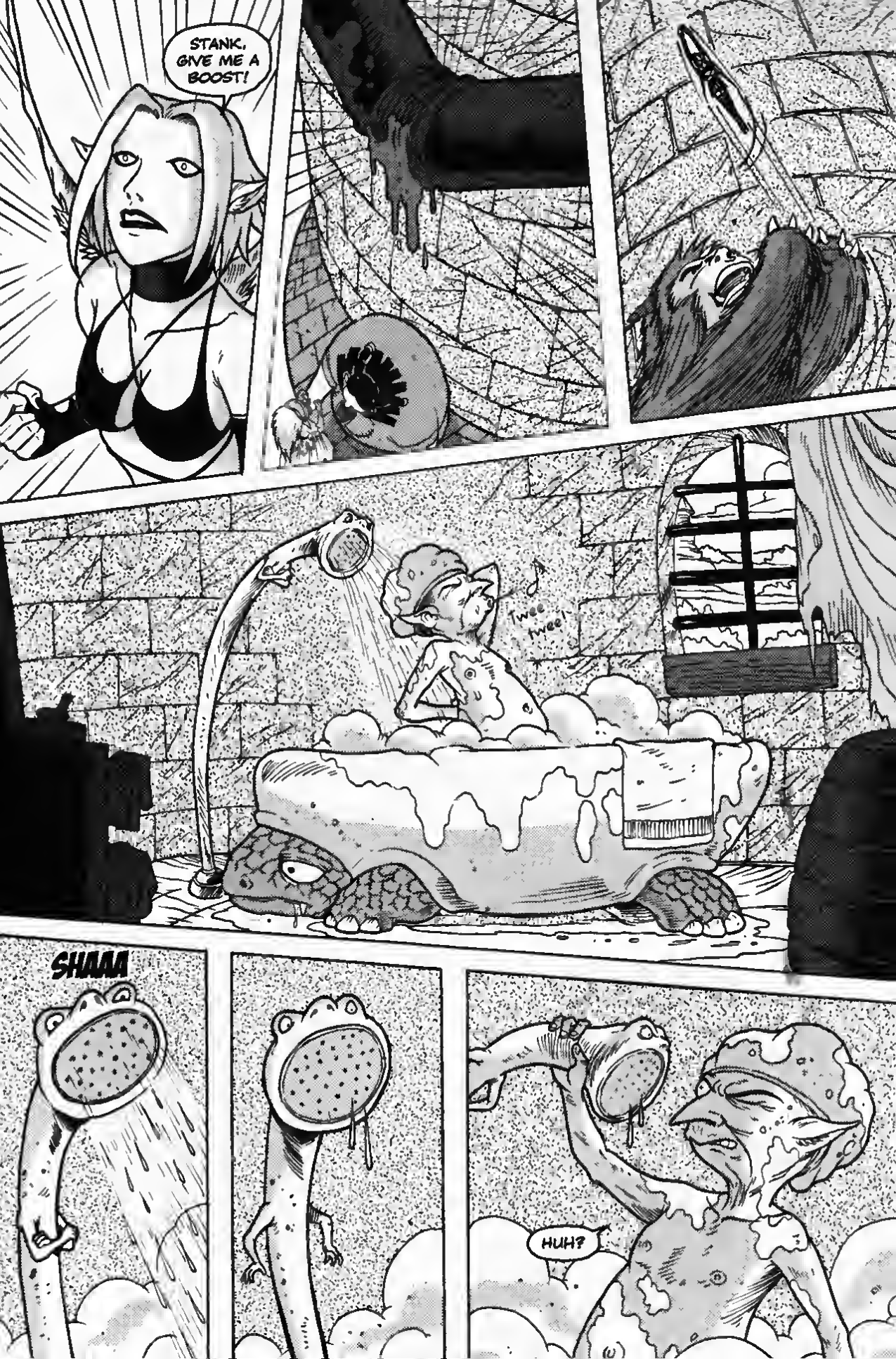
KER-KRASH!
THOOM
EEP!

THUM THUM
THUM THUM
DON'T LET HER TOUCH YOU! SHE'S LIKE A SPONGE! SHE SUCKS THE MOISTURE OUT OF ANYTHING SHE TOUCHES!

WE'RE TRAPPED!
THUM
THUM
THUM
THUM

HEY, FUZZBUCKET! "ROCKS FRIENDS," RIGHT? THE CASTLE'S MADE OF ROCK! HOW ABOUT YOU INVITE A FEW OF THOSE ROCKS UP THERE TO COME DOWN AND VISIT?
Aroooo!
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
KR-KRASH

PHEW...
POW!
SHE'S UNSTOPPABLE!
THAT WASN'T VERY NICE.
GRAB
FSHHH
SHE'S KILLING HER!


STANK, GIVE ME A BOOST!
Twee twee!
SHAAA
HUH?

HEY, JUMBO!
WHA--?
SWOOSH
MMPH!
GLUB! GLUB!
Gasp!
YOU OKAY, KIDDO?

NOT AGAIN...
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
Aaah!
HUH?
RELAX, YOUR MAJESTY. TOMORROW IT WILL ALL BE OVER, AND WE--
KRACK!

MOPPET!
MOOWS
OOF!
HIS MAGIC IS INSTINCTIVE, BUT IT IS STRONG. PERHAPS I WAS WRONG TO GIVE UP ON HIM.

MOPPET! ARE YOU OKAY?!
TOBY...
SARAH?!

Elsewhere in the Labyrinth...
YOU... YOU ARE NOT SAFE HERE...
TURN BACK...
YOU ARE GOING THE WRONG WAY!

CHISEL GESTURE BONE WILL NIP?
OF COURSE HE WILL SEE US.
HIS LIFE DEPENDS ON IT.
OILSKIN ELK RATIO.
INDEED, BROTHER. WE ARE IN FOR A WET NIGHT.
TH-THOOM!

KRACK!
Hissss!
IT'S OKAY, MORGAN. IT'S ONLY THUNDER.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, GIRL, BUT I COULD USE A SNACK.
IF I DON'T GET A BREAK FROM GRADING PAPERS, MY BRAIN'S GONNA MELT.
Prrr...

HMM...
MAYBE I'LL JUST STICK TO TEA.
OOLONG? WHAT HAPPENED TO MY EARL GREY?

DON'T WORRY, MORGAN. I MAY BE LOW ON PEOPLE FOOD, BUT I CAN FIND SOMETHING FOR YOU.
KNOCK KNOCK
WHO COULD IT BE AT THIS HOUR?
IT'S RAINING PRETTY HARD OUT THERE... I HOPE NO ONE'S IN TROUBLE.

HELLO, SARAH.

To Be Continued...

Jim Henson's RETURN TO LABYRINTH™

Toby has completed his education, but is he truly ready to wear the crown and take control of the Labyrinth?

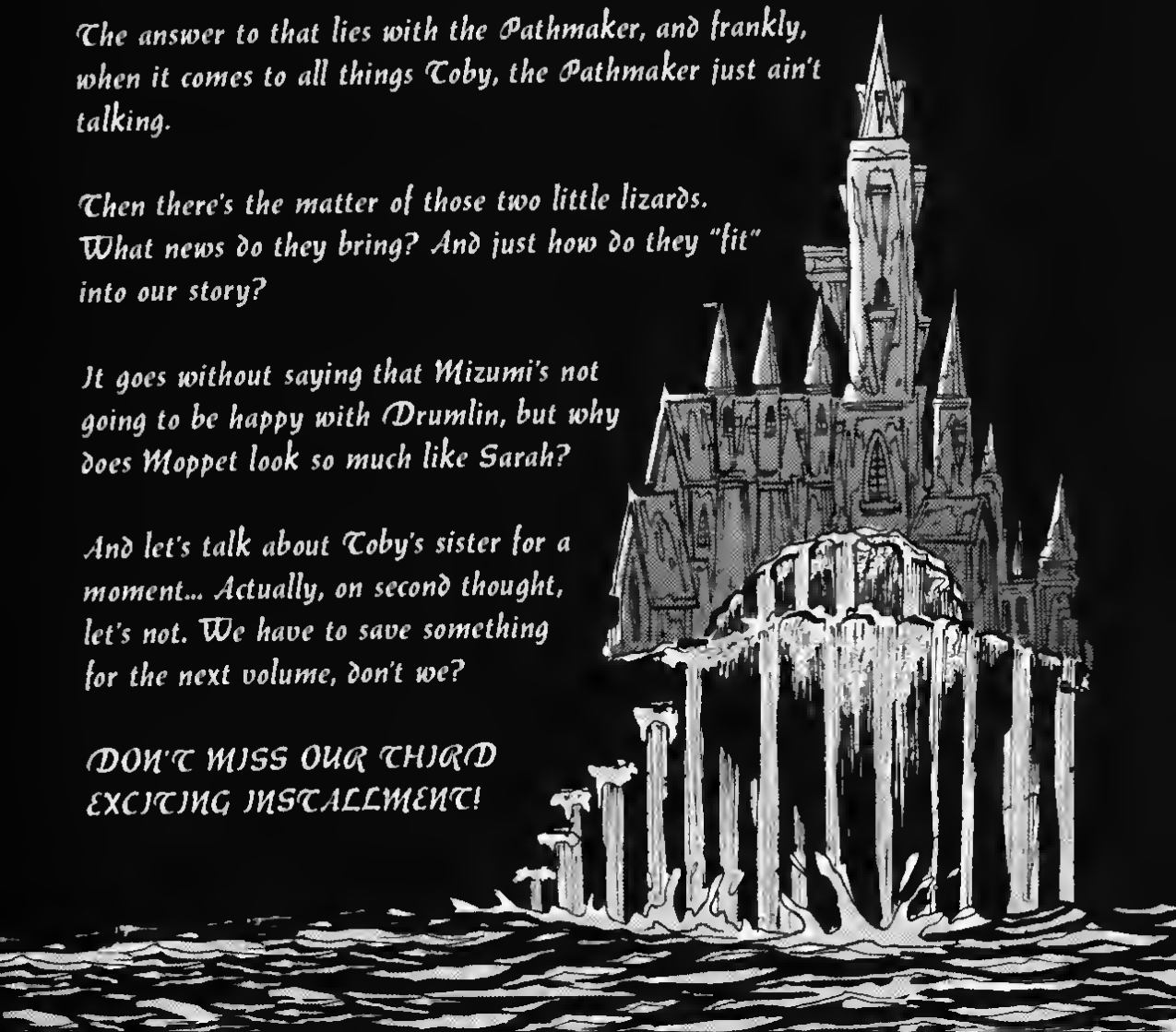
The answer to that lies with the Pathmaker, and frankly, when it comes to all things Toby, the Pathmaker just ain't talking.

Then there's the matter of those two little lizards. What news do they bring? And just how do they "fit" into our story?

It goes without saying that Mizumi's not going to be happy with Drumlin, but why does Moppet look so much like Sarah?

And let's talk about Toby's sister for a moment... Actually, on second thought, let's not. We have to save something for the next volume, don't we?

DON'T MISS OUR THIRD EXCITING INSTALLMENT!



Guest Art Gallery

Heidi Arnhold

Pop Mhan
MHANG

Erica Reis
Erica Reis
1/2

Nichol

VERY FUNNY.
IT WUZ LUDO'S IDEA.
Amy Mebberson

Ocala Bellows Kulig

Tim Smith 3
TS3

Through DANGERS untold and hardships UNNUMBERED
I have fought my way here, to the castle beyond the GOBLIN CITY
to take back the CHILD you have STOLEN
For my WILL is as STRONG as yours, and my KINGDOM is as GREAT
YOU have NO POWER over ME
Tintin Pantoja

Chrissy Delk

-GEORGE
ALEXOPOULOS
George Alexopoulos

Jessica Feinberg
Should You Need Us...

Leia Weathington
OH, WOW... WOW.
LISTEN, THAT'S REALLY SWEET OF YOU... BUT... UHHH... YEAH, I'M GONNA HAVE TO TAKE A PASS.
SO IF YOU COULD JUST PUT YOUR FREAKY SELF BACK TOGETHER THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

Amy Mcbberson
Just fear me
Love me
Do as I say...
..and I will be your slave.

Guest Art Contributors

Heidi Arnhold is a recent graduate from the Savannah College of Art and Design and the illustrator of *Jim Henson's Legends of the Dark Crystal*, available from TOKYOPOP in November 2007. You can find more of her work at http://chibimaryn.deviantart.com.

Pop Mhan has been drawing comics for Marvel, DC and Dark Horse for the past ten years. He is the creator of *Blank*, available now from TOKYOPOP, and has illustrated issues of *Batgirl*, *Marvel Adventures Spider-Man* and *Robin*. Visit him on the Web at www.popmhan.com.

Erica Reis is also a recent graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design and is the creator of *Sea Princess Azuri*, the second volume of which is available now from TOKYOPOP. Discover the underwater world of the Orcans (and say hi to Erica) at www.seaprincessazuri.com.

Nichol is a recent winner of TOKYOPOP's *Rising Stars of Manga* contest and a graduate of the Art Institute of Boston. You can find more of her comics work at www.nixcomix.com.

Amy Mebberson is also a winner of the *Rising Stars of Manga* contest and the co-creator of TOKYOPOP's original manga series *Divalicious!*, as well as the popular Web comic *As If!* Her most recent Web comic, *Thorn*, can be found on her Web site: www.mimisgrotto.com.

Ocala Bellows Kulig is an illustrator and video game concept designer. Her most recent projects include *City of Villains* and *Star Trek Online*. Check out more of her art at www.pixelimn.com.

Tim Smith 3 is the creator of the original manga series *Grimm & Co.*, coming soon from TOKYOPOP. He's also worked on *The Hardy Boys* and *Tales from the Crypt* for Papercutz. His Web domain is www.timsmith3.com.

Tintin Pantoja graduated from the School of Visual Arts in New York. She's since illustrated John Wiley & Sons' manga adaptation of *Hamlet* and is currently working on TOKYOPOP's adaptation of *Pride & Prejudice*. See pages from both at http://mentacle.rusticeye.com.

Chrissy Delk is also a recent graduate from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She's the co-creator of *Paintings of You*, available now from Iris Print, and *Wonderland*, a fantasy Web comic that you can read at www.amadteaparty.net.

George Alexopoulos is a winner of the *Rising Stars of Manga* contest and the creator of *Go With Grace*, a single-volume graphic novel available from TOKYOPOP. You can see more of his comics work at www.studionj.com.

Jessica Feinberg is a freelance illustrator and the toner of *Jim Henson's Legends of the Dark Crystal*. She's also the English-language localizer for such manga series as *Mitsukazu Mihara: The Embalmer* and *Broken Angels*. Her illustrations are on display at www.artlair.com.

Leia Weathington is a student at the Academy of Art in San Francisco and the creator of the popular Web comic series *Bold Riley*, which you can read online at both www.girlamatic.com/comics/brww.php and www.webcomicsnation.com/redrabbit/.

SKEKSICORP

IN: "ESSENCE OF EVERYTHING"

STORY BY
MICHAEL POLIS
ART BY
JIM FORMANEK

WHEN WE LAST JOINED OUR VILLIANS...
ESSENCE OF GELFLING IN LOW SUPPLY! HMMMM?
PERHAPS NEW ESSENCE, YESSS?
AND SO, THE EXPERIMENTS BEGIN...
ESSENCE OF BUNNY
ESSENCE OF STINK BUG
ESSENCE OF HAM SANDWICH
WITH SO MANY FLAVORS, WHAT ELSE IS A SKEKSIS TO DO?
$$$$?!
$kekbuck$ 31 E$$ence$

™ & ©2007 THE JIM HENSON COMPANY

Well, here we are. Another volume of *Return to Labyrinth* in the can, thanks in no small part to the creativity and hard work of Messrs Jake T. Forbes and Chris Lie. I hope you enjoyed it. Are you still reeling from that ending as much as I was when I first read it?

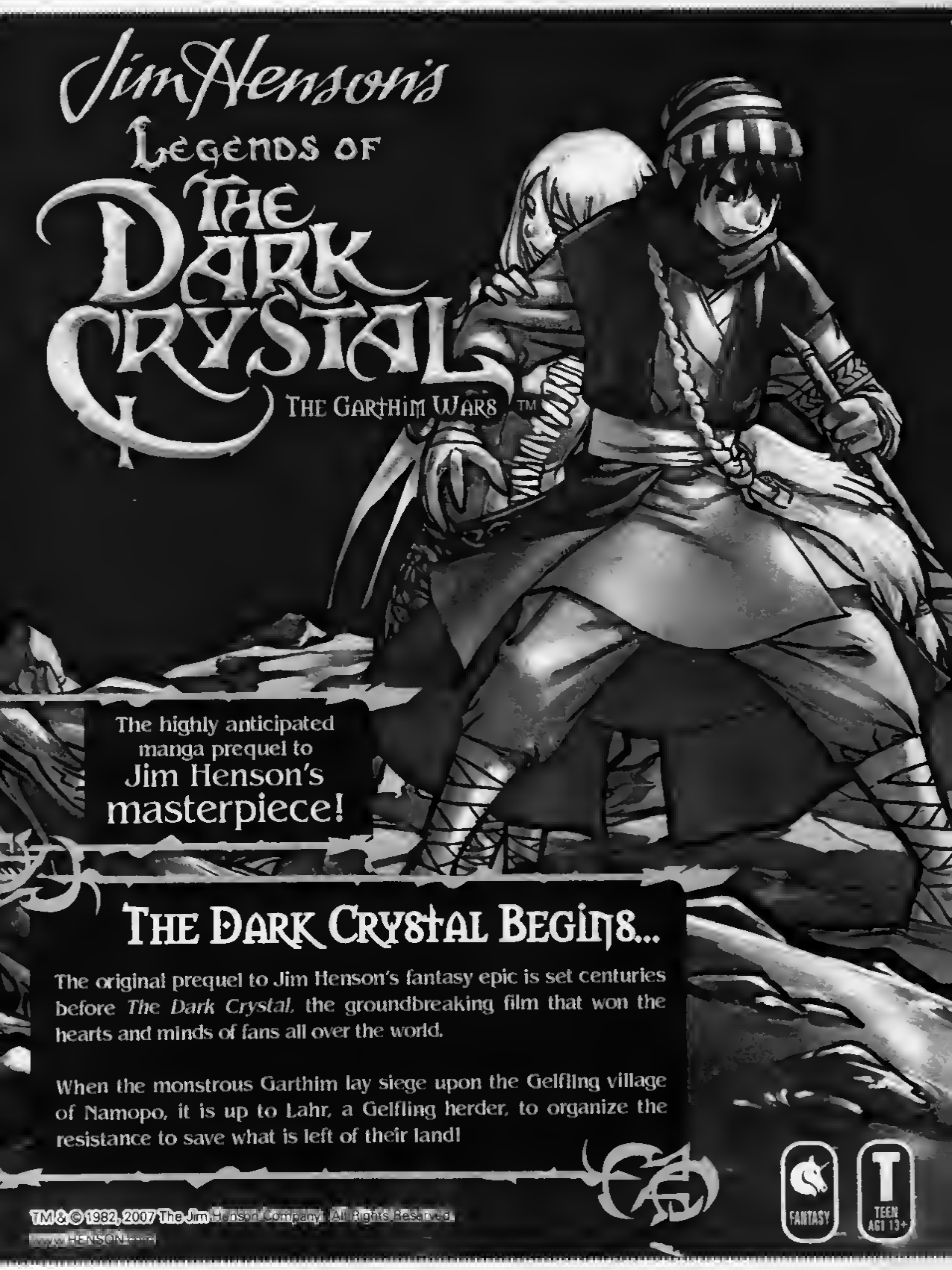
The end of our second volume marks the halfway point of our story. Yes, you read that right. We're looking at four volumes here. Why the extra length? Well, that's partly on you. You see, after reading some of the responses to our first volume, it occurred to us that there are things fans want in a sequel to *Labyrinth* that we could give them if we had a little extra length. Besides, all of us were having far too much fun to stop at three volumes. So we decided to give ourselves an extra one. That said, don't think for a minute that you know where this story's going! I think we just might surprise you!

This is actually my first volume as editor of *Return to Labyrinth*, and I want to give a few shout-outs to some of the people who have contributed to the success of this series. First and foremost, we have our talented writer and artist, as well as all the amazing folks at The Jim Henson Company, especially James Formanek, Nicole Goldman and Halle Stanford. I also couldn't have gotten this book to the printer in time without the assistance of Sarah Tangney, and this series wouldn't exist at all without the efforts of Michael Polis and Rob Valois, both of whom have unfortunately moved on to other projects. And finally, we need to thank all of you—the *Labyrinth* fans—who have kept this universe alive in your hearts and minds for over twenty years now!

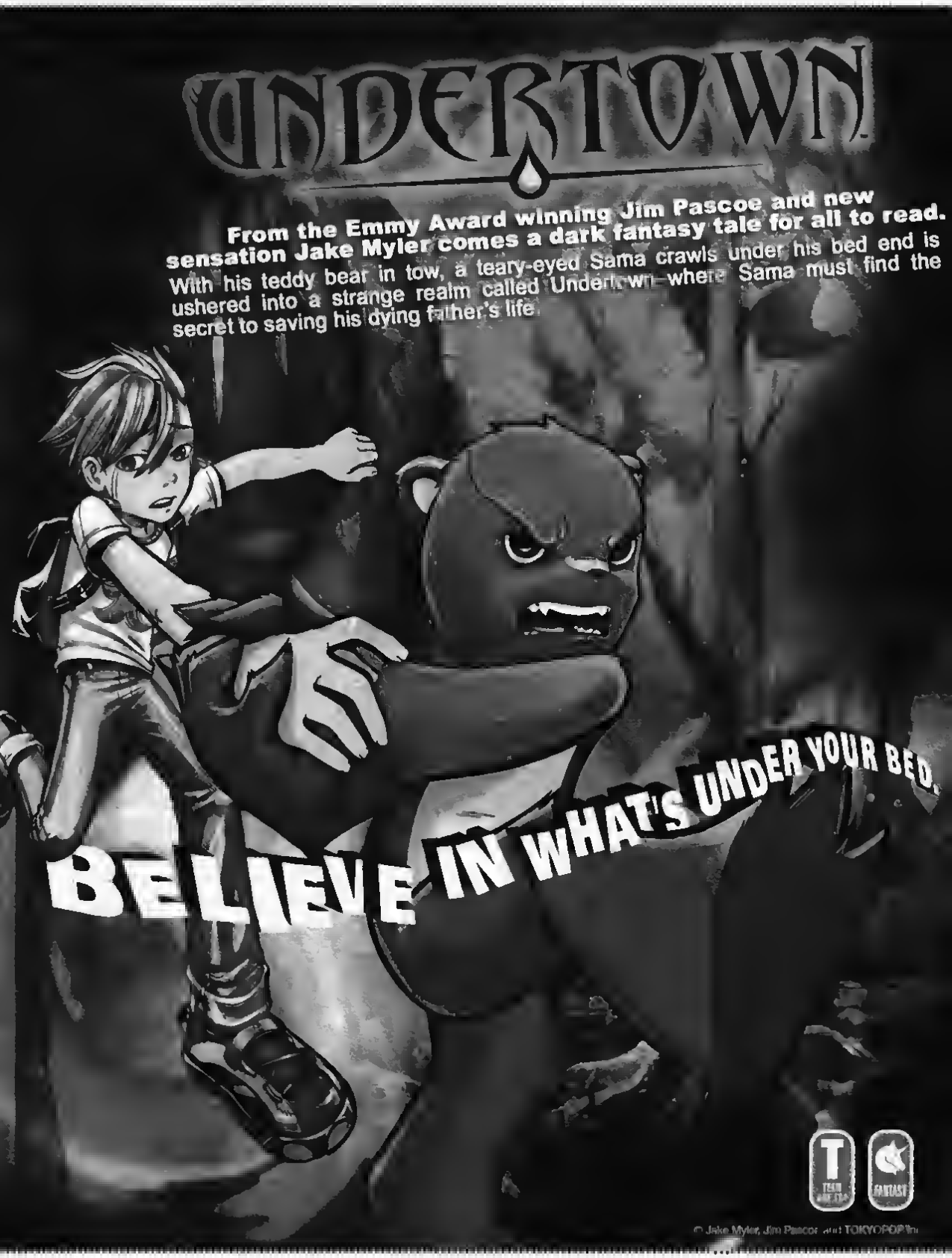
Thanks for reading! We'll see you in Volume 3!

Tim Beedle
Editor

P.S. Be sure to pick up our companion series *Legends of The Dark Crystal* when the first volume drops later this year. Because fans cannot live on *Labyrinth* alone!


Jim Henson's
Legends of
The Dark Crystal
The Garthim Wars ™
The highly anticipated manga prequel to Jim Henson's masterpiece!
THE DARK CRYSTAL BEGINS...
The original prequel to Jim Henson's fantasy epic is set centuries before *The Dark Crystal*, the groundbreaking film that won the hearts and minds of fans all over the world.
When the monstrous Garthim lay siege upon the Gelfling village of Namopo, it is up to Lahr, a Gelfling herder, to organize the resistance to save what is left of their land!
FANTASY
T
TEEN AGE 13+

TM & © 1982, 2007 The Jim Henson Company. All Rights Reserved.
www.HENSON.com


UNDERTOWN
From the Emmy Award winning Jim Pascoe and new sensation Jake Myler comes a dark fantasy tale for all to read.
With his teddy bear in tow, a teary-eyed Sama crawls under his bed end is ushered into a strange realm called Undertown where Sama must find the secret to saving his dying father's life.
BELIEVE IN WHAT'S UNDER YOUR BED.
T
FANTASY
© Jake Myler, Jim Pascoe and TOKYOPOP Inc.

when your heart is desperate
and longs for something lost,
an Alichino could provide it,
but your soul will pay the cost...
Alichino™

www.TOKYOPOP.com/alichino

©1998 Kouyu Shurei. ©2005 TOKYOPOP Inc.

T
TEEN
AGE 13+

www.TOKYOPOP.com

WRITER

Jake T. Forbes

Jake T. Forbes has served as editor and English-language localizer for an unhealthy amount of manga, including the best-selling series *Chobits, Fruits Basket* and *Fullmetal Alchemist.* In addition to manga, he has written for various and sundry periodicals and is presently a Quest Writer for massively-multiplayer online games. He dreams of a day when Pikmin and Fraggles can coexist, but until that time he lets the Fraggles live under his bed.

ILLUSTRATOR

Chris Lie

Chris Lie was an award-winning comic artist in Asia for years before coming to the United States and obtaining a Masters degree in Sequential Art from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2005. Since then he has achieved notoriety as an artist on such books as *G.I. Joe Sigma 6, Arashikage Showdown* and *Josie and the Pussycats,* and continues to achieve success in this new chapter of his career.